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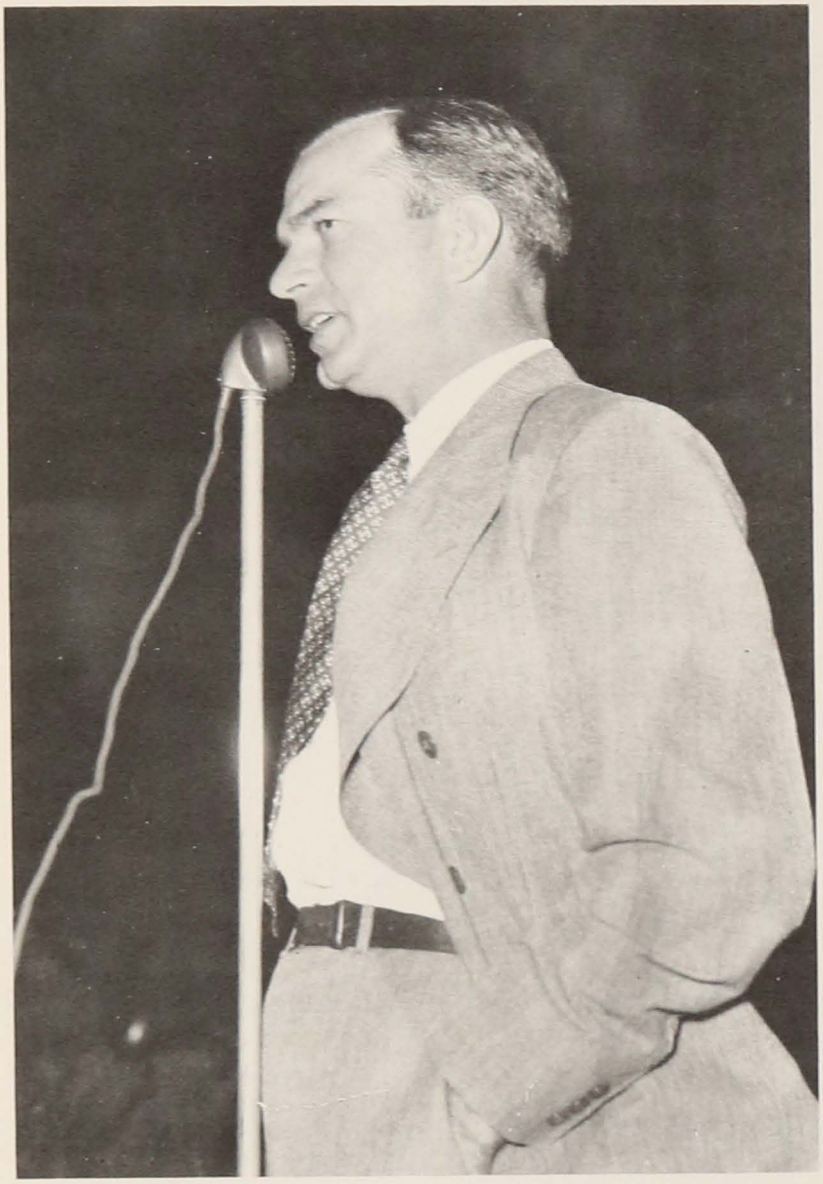
WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Vol. XVI, No. 2 | W. J. Lemke, Editor | May, 1966



An early photo of J. W. "Bill" Fulbright in one of his platform appearances during his first political campaign for Congress in 1940. See lead article in this issue of Flashback.

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Vol. XVI, No. 2 W. J. Lemke, editor May 1966

J. W. FULBRIGHT, "MINISTER FROM ARKANSAS"

A previously unpublished manuscript written in 1941
by Irene Carlisle

(Editor's note: Among our recent WCHS office visitors were two writers for national magazines. Both were seeking information about Senator J.W.Fulbright's early years. One of the writers wanted to know the reasons for the Senator's "self sufficiency." The other man wanted to know why a "conservative" state like Arkansas continues to elect a "liberal" to the Senate. I had a feeling that both magazines were getting ready for the Senator's campaign for re-election in 1968. When they left, I decided that if our WCHS has any Fulbright material that is of value to the Big Mags, we ought to use it in our own FLASHBACK.

(A search of our history files revealed an article written in 1941 by Irene Carlisle of our Society. This was written shortly after Bill Fulbright's election to Congress -- his first political campaign. Mrs. Carlisle wrote the article on assignment from a national magazine. As I remember, the then Congressman didn't like some of her comments. Mrs. Carlisle noted his objections on the margins of her manuscript and we are publishing some of these as footnotes. They tell a lot about what the present head of the Senate's Foreign Relations committee was like in his formative years. It's a long jump from Rabbit's Foot Lodge in Washington County, Arkansas, to national and international fame.

(FLASHBACK is proud of this exclusive article, which we are publishing exactly as Mrs. Carlisle wrote it. Senator Fulbright is now a national and international figure and has earned a place in history. So, we are proud to contribute this information about his political beginnings, his brief career as a "farmer", and his dismissal as president of the University. We are sure that writers for national publications will lift some of this information about the Senator's early days. We hope they will give Irene Carlisle, and the WCHS, proper credit. So, here's an exclusive in our county historical magazine about a man who is helping to make history.)

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J. W. FULBRIGHT, "MINISTER FROM ARKANSAS"

by Irene Carlisle

The first post-war proposal endorsed by the Foreign Affairs committee of the House of Representatives is now familiar to the entire nation--the famous one-sentence resolution introduced by Representative J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.): "That Congress hereby express itself as favoring the creation of an appropriate international machinery with power adequate to maintain a just and lasting peace, and as favoring a participation by us therein."

That resolution, tersely and masterfully worded, is the work not of a veteran legislator seasoned in war and post-war upheaval, but of a hard-thinking, slow-talking freshman from the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas. The folks back home were not surprised when Bill Fulbright's name became known overnight from the big white house on Pennsylvania avenue in Washington to the crossroads stores in Nebraska and Alabama. They knew when Bill went to Washington he'd get things stirred up a little.

Bill started off stirring things up the first time he got up to speak on the floor of the House, a month after he was seated. He picked his opponent and he named the weapons, and the contemporary with whom he crossed swords was no less than the glamour girl of Congress, Clare Booth Luce (R-Conn.), who had on her side a national reputation as a brilliant playwright besides a husband who edits LIFE, TIME and FORTUNE magazines. Mrs. Luce had been tossing handsome words about, and one of the prettiest was the term "globaloney" which she neatly applied to Henry Wallace's ideas on postwar plans. Mrs. Luce figured our country had better be grabbing control of the air before somebody else did. (1)

Bill doesn't believe in grabbing. He got right up in meeting and said so, in what one Congressman called the best speech he had ever heard on the floor of the House in the ten years he had been there. Mrs.Luce got up to protest. It seems she had caught Bill in a grammatical error. He had said "infer" when he meant "imply", but you'd be surprised how little anybody cared about that; what the reading and listening public cared about and chuckled over was the fact that the gentleman from Arkansas had spoken out for his conscientious belief against the powerful forces which backed his charming opponent.

Last week in Congress Mrs.Luce warmly supported in a stirring speech the postwar resolution Bill had introduced.

When Bill left his 110-acre farm, his Herefords and his prize Black Angus cattle, and piled his wife and little daughters into the family car for the trip to Washington, he had done a lot of thinking. He had

(1) Bill wanted this paragraph about the Luce incident out. I want it in. -- IJC

This is Rabbit's Foot, with the veranda from which Bill "watches his white-faced cattle when the day's work is done."

Bill and Betty bought their farm because it had the only spring still running on a sultry afternoon when they drove past. Picture shows the spring and the cave from which it flows. (Photos by W. J. Lemke)

weighed and assayed his talents, training and experience, and he believed that he could best serve on the Foreign Affairs committee. Bill is a country boy, as he says, but he is also a widely traveled young man, a student of history and contemporary political science, with plenty of first-hand observation in a dozen countries to back up his conclusions. (2)

The folks around home were gratified, of course, when they heard that Bill had been appointed to the Foreign Affairs committee. Still, they had expected it, and they took it as calmly as they took the Fulbright-Luce tilt and the latest news of Bill's famed resolution. An overalled champion of the new Congressman debating on the city square in Bill's home town expressed the general feeling:

"There's times," he said, "when it looks like a little bit of learning don't hurt a man much." He twisted the brim of his ruined hat reflectively. "And sometimes," he said reluctantly, "I figger a little money don't do him no real harm either."

Down in the Ozark Mountain country of Arkansas, where babies still are born in log cabins and fiddlers call the square dance sets in many a remote village, not much higher praise could have been given young Bill Fulbright. Learning and money are generally distrusted in the hills, and Bill is well-supplied with both; a political enemy once bitterly accused him of having spent his whole life in higher education. This was scarcely true; James William ("I Am a Farmer") Fulbright, as the opposition dubbed him during his recent Congressional campaign, has also had a crack at holding a plow straight, dining with Lady Nancy Astor, crashing press conferences in the Balkans and grooming his prize Black Angus for the county fair.

Men and women of Arkansas' rugged Third District are close to their Congressman; they have to be. For most of them, he is their sole contact with national government, and they size him up shrewdly before they "put him on the train." They had been hearing about Bill Fulbright, off and on, for several years. His mother "owned the town" at Fayetteville and Bill had had a hand in managing the family's imposing array of small businesses since he was in his teens. (3)

The Third District had heard how Bill went to school in Europe -- "gallivanting", they said -- and how he practiced law in Washington. The farmers and storekeepers who decide the district's political destinies were not quite prepared for the somewhat slouchy young man who looked and acted like a bashful small-town boy and who admitted with a grin that he had never run for any sort of office, didn't know the names of the ten counties in his district and had never before set foot in six of them. (4)

(2) Bill says they <u>assigned</u> him to the Foreign Affairs Committee. He says he had naught to do with it. -- IJC

(3) He didn't like this paragraph. I do. -- IJC

(4) He hit the ceiling over the phrase, "slouchy young man." -- IJC

Bill's campaign was conversational; he was perfectly at home on a cracker box or in a barn lot, and he could talk about the war as well at the sawmill as before the microphone. Moreover, he listened when other people talked; he thought a man who ran a store might know more about rationing and price control than some of the government folks did, and it seemed to him a farmer ought to have some notions on the subject of farm labor. He knew about ticks and cattle grubs, and he knew what an REA line can mean to a lonely mountain homestead. The Third District had heard about his wealthy wife from Philadelphia; it hadn't heard that she knew how to sugar-cure a ham and make soap in an outdoor kettle, till she came along with Bill and showed the mountain women her methods. It developed that the Fulbright youngsters had their troubles with teething and runny noses just the same as Hank Wilburton's kids, and Bill couldn't raise turkeys on that farm of his no matter how he tried.

The Third District loves its oratory, and Bill's chief opponent, State Supreme Court Justice Karl Greenhaw, was a spellbinder from away back; but Bill won the Democratic nomination, which in Arkansas is tantamount to election, by the largest margin of votes ever recorded in his district. Greenhaw, a friend of Governor Homer Adkins, had the backing of powerful state political groups, while Adkins and the forthright Fulbrights were out of favor with each other. (5)

When the University of Arkansas elected its president back in 1939, its excellent news bureau was caught with both galluses unhooked. For days before the election -- ever since President John Futrall, very dead, (6) had been plucked from the wreckage of his car on a mountain curve a week before -- the news bureau had been assembling biographical data on the four men who stood a chance of election. The four biographies, neatly typed, lay waiting release. Beside them lay shorter sketches of seven men who might conceivably be named by the board of trustees. The news bureau, waiting for the big oak doors upstairs to open, was ready for anything.

That was at four o'clock. At five, coatless and perspiring newsmen were pawing through the files, besieging the registrar's office, stalling frantically by wire and telephone and chewing corners off the pretty biographies. Bill Fulbright was the new president.

Bill hadn't founded anything; he wasn't the head of any of the University departments. He had been on the faculty less than four years; indeed, he was barely on the faculty at all. As a lecturer in the law department he was outranked by professors, assistant professors, instructors, assistant instructors and nearly everybody else on the campus. He looked more like a student than most of the students did, being addicted to a pipe, a station wagon and a tweed jacket. And he was 34 years old.

(5) As for the statement about the 3rd Arkansas District "loving its oratory," he thought this paragraph "undiplomatic" but correct, factually. -- IJC

(6) "Bad taste," he said. It stands. -- IJC

FULBRIGHT FARM

At Rabbit's Foot Lodge

(Left) — Grubs on the Black Angus would be a major tragedy. Here Bill inspects her.

(Right) Bill consults with his foreman in the barn lot.

(Left) The Fulbright family in the living room of Rabbit's Foot Lodge.

(Photos about 1939 by W. J. Lemke.)

After the first shock wore off nobody cared much if Bill was president. The students were openly delighted, the townspeople chuckled and said he was a nice boy. A lady who went to Europe with Bill's mother when he was a Rhodes scholar at Oxford -- incidentally, he is the second Rhodes scholar ever elected to Congress -- sent him a 95-pound watermelon which won a prize at the Hempstead County fair, and a lot of people wrote and wired congratulations. (7)

Bill's wife Betty filled a big scrapbook with the letters and telegrams. Here and there a newspaper reared its cynical head, pointing out that the board of trustees which elected Bill was pretty well controlled by Carl E. Bailey, then governor, and that Bailey and the Fulbrights were not exactly making faces at each other. In Bill's home town of Fayetteville, however, the paper said nothing of the kind. Bill's mother owns and publishes it, and writes its editorial column as well.

President Fulbright moved into his new office, tweed jacket, pipe and all, and people around town went on calling him Bill. He was instantly popular with the students, but the faculty had seen people it liked better. Men who had spent their best years as professors and department heads got no special fun out of being responsible to a newcomer younger than their sons, and men who felt the dignity of their years and their offices resented the casual manners of the new boss.

Bill kept on driving the station wagon to work, because lots of times he had to take home cow feed or groceries or fertilizer. The first time he went to a football game after he was elected president, a freshman traffic monitor spotted him as he parked the station wagon in the faculty row.

"Back that wreck out of there!" shouted the youngster. "That's for the faculty! Can't you read?"

The new president had plenty of ideas and he didn't mind airing them. He was a whole-hearted interventionist back in the days when the war was just good reading to most Americans. Bill had emerged from Oxford and from his European travels with a lasting respect for the British ideal of free government and a strong belief in America's essential alliance with Britain. When the University of Missouri asked him to speak at its summer term commencement in 1940, the speech Bill submitted read in part:

"Without our help it is doubtful if the British empire can survive. I do not know why we are waiting, except that some of our leaders are blind and ignorant... The weasling, timid and fearful policy of the isolationist senators is one of the greatest dangers to our true interests."

(7) This paragraph about the Bailey-Fulbright association, and the next paragraph -- "This is OK, but he just didn't like it. -- IJC"

Bill had made that speech at the University of Oklahoma the week before, and it went over big; but Senator Bennett Champ Clark was to be at the Missouri exercises and might reasonably have been expected to object to certain passages. University of Missouri officials asked if President Fulbright would mind deleting certain parts of the speech. President Fulbright said he would deliver it as it was or not at all, and two days before commencement he had a wire saying he needn't come. (8)

Bill's election as president had been dramatic; he was kicked out in comparable style on Commencement Day, 1941. Governor Bailey had lost the Democratic nomination to Homer M. Adkins in the summer of 1940 -- an event on which Bill's outspoken mother at once commented in the daily Northwest Arkansas Times at Fayetteville: "It seems the people of Arkansas want a hand-shaking governor instead of one who accomplished something for the state." (9)

Rumors of Bill's impending dismissal enlivened the talk around town all the following winter. Governor Adkins took office in January, six Bailey appointees on the University board of trustees resigned and six Adkins appointees replaced them. There were only ten members on the board, so from then on the plays were easy to call. When the board met in May, the students staged a mass meeting of protest against their president's expected dismissal, and President Fulbright's head was spared until June. (10)

Commencement Day is a big event for the entire town, and it brings notables from all over the state and from many parts of the country. The alumni luncheon and the president's annual reception are both gala affairs. President Edward C. Elliott of Purdue University arrived to make the commencement address and stepped into a sizable puddle of state politics. With a stage sense remarkable among university executive boards, the trustees met just before noon and asked Bill if he wouldn't like to resign.

He wouldn't. He said he thought he'd rather be fired, and he went out and waited in the hall while the board decided not to re-elect him. At the alumni luncheon he was notably uncrushed, and at the president's reception he cheerfully congratulated Dr. A. M. Harding, head of the General Extension department, who had been picked as his successor. Some of the guests were unaware that anything had happened.

The ousted president stood in the rain that night and passed out diplomas amid the cheers of the students. Everybody else in town was more excited than he was.

(8) This account of Oklahoma and Missouri is OK, but he "just didn't like it." -- IJC

(9) This paragraph about Bill Fulbright's dismissal as UofA president and his mother's comment drew Mrs. Carlisle's comment: "This is OK but he didn't like it."

(10) The three paragraphs about Bill Fulbright's dismissal as president of the University, drew this marginal comment from the author: "This is OK. He just didn't like it. -- IJC"

Meeting of UA Board of Trustees

Left to right: President Futrall, Governor Bailey, Phipps, Ponder, Steel and Secretary Carlson.

J. W. "Bill" Fulbright as president of the University of Arkansas 1940

Bill's mother, shrewd, well-informed, capable Roberta Waugh Fulbright exercises considerable power in Northwest Arkansas. Her husband, the late Jay Fulbright, brought his family to Fayetteville when Bill was a baby, and rapidly acquired a group of small businesses. Jay had been a farmer and a dealer in land in Chariton County, Missouri. One of his first interests in Fayetteville was the newspaper, which is still one of the family's properties. The Fulbright businesses include at least one of nearly everything in town -- a lumber company, a bottling works, a hotel, a creamery and produce house, the county's only daily newspaper and the newly purchased Springfield Wagon Company which Bill brought down from Missouri last summer. The Fulbrights used to have a bank, which they sold this winter, and once they had a railroad -- the little Combs, Cass & Eastern lumber line, of which Bill was vice president when he was 18 years old.

There were six of the Fulbright children, but Bill more than the others has had a hand in the management of the family's business concerns, now incorporated in the Fulbright Investment Company. When his father died in 1923, he took over a considerable share of the responsibility for management. Fulbright concerns have prospered almost without exception.

"The only thing I ever saw Dad really lose money on was a zinc mine over in Oklahoma," Bill says. He hasn't bought any zinc mines since.

Few people in Washington County are untouched by one or more of the Fulbright concerns. The Northwest Arkansas Times carries in its editorial column the views of its publisher on every subject from the high school play to national politics. Roberta Fulbright's opinions bear a good deal of weight in her locality, and she exercises a sort of benevolent despotism over the community. Mrs. Fulbright's editorials, written in longhand and published under her own name under the heading "As I See It," are important shapers of thought in the community.

When Bill ran for Congress, the Times published his opponent's advertising. Bill put out a small campaign paper called the Victory News, which was set on the Times' linotypes and run off on its presses. It was the same page-size as the Times, went out to all boxholders in the Third District, and carried pictures of Bill and Betty and the children looking rural beside their log house, Rabbit's Foot Lodge, west of Springdale.

That log house, where Bill lives with Betty and their two small daughters, Betsy and Bosey (Roberta), drew bitter remarks from Bill's opponent in the Congressional race, who said that Bill did his farming by sitting on the veranda and admiring his high-priced Herefords.

"I do have a nice front porch," was Bill's mild reply. He added that when he got to Congress he would try to fix it so that more farmers of the district could have good white-faced cattle to look out upon when the day's work was done.

It is a pleasant unpretentious house, with a running spring beside it; on the 110 acres surrounding it the Bill Fulbrights raise cattle, chickens, hogs, vegetables and feed. They cure their meat, churn their cream and render their lard. No horny-handed son of toil, Bill is no parlor farmer either. He was born on a farm in Missouri and spent his boyhood summers working on his uncle's farm after the family moved to Fayetteville. He can milk a cow, pitch hay or shovel manure, and his prize Herefords are his chief delight.

When Bill said he had a cow he'd like to enter in the county fair, he sounded so diffident that officials hastened to encourage him. He said the trouble was he didn't have any way to get the cow to the fair barns, so another cattleman who figured he had a cinch on first place said he would take a truck out to Bill's place and pick up the cow. He did so, driving the eleven miles and back on both trips through a slow drizzle. Bill's cow was the Black Angus, and she took both the blue ribbon and the championship.

Bill is not lacking in social graces, but Betty has the family finesse.(11) She was Elizabeth Williams, daughter of the late Robert M. Williams of Philadelphia, who made his money as a cotton merchant. Betty's family is well known in Philadelphia; her cousin, Banning Orange of Bryn Mawr, married Lord Barnby, formerly of the House of Commons, now of the House of Lords; the family is connected with the prominent Strawbridge-Clothier firm of Philadelphia.

Bill and Betty met in Washington when he was studying law at George Washington University. They were married in 1932. Betty is content to let Bill be the educated member of the family; she attended a private school in Philadelphia and came out at an old-fashioned Philadelphia tea. I don't know where she learned to make soap, but it's good soap.

For all the solid financial standing of the family, money never came easily to Bill and his brother and sisters. The first summer he was in the University of Arkansas he worked in the University dairy, washing bottles and slopping hogs. By fall he had accumulated about $75; he took his stripped-down Ford up to Bella Vista, let it out a little coming home, and wound up in night court with a $62 fine for speeding.

He had a lot of other jobs in those years; he worked at the lumber mill and was halfback on the varsity football team, where his spectacular kicking won more than one game for the Razorbacks. He was a spot runner in the backfield, a three-letter man in football and captain of the tennis team. He won the presidency of the student body by one vote and he was a Sigma Chi and sang in the glee club.

Bill says the Rhodes scholarship was the biggest thing that ever happened to him. He was appointed a Rhodes scholar at nineteen after competitive examinations, and was the youngest Rhodes scholar ever to be appointed from Arkansas. Except for his trips to his uncle's farm,

(11) Congressman Fulbright approved of all references to his wife Betty. This statement that "Betty has all the finesse," has Mrs. Carlisle's notation "All OK."

and jaunts with the football team, he had not been out of the state since he was six months old. Now he found himself on his way to Oxford University for three years, with a yearly stipend of about $1,200.

Bill went up on the square and bought two suits before he sailed on the Lancastria. Those suits look pretty odd in the snapshots he brought back with him, but almost at once they began to change for the better. The coats disappeared, the tweed jacket made its first appearance, and presently Bill's album shows a sort of triumphal pose in an ivied doorway, in full regalia of long coat, pipe, knickers and plaid socks.

Young Fulbright had used up the time between completion of his requirements for an A. B. degree at the University of Arkansas and the taking up of residence in Oxford by studying law at the Arkansas school under Claude Pepper, later elected to the Senate. At Oxford he read for honors in the school of modern history and came home with two more degrees. Further, he had acquired a good deal of first-hand knowledge on the workings of government and had gone poking into every country of Europe except Spain and Russia.

He got on the Oxford-Cambridge lacrosse team and came back to play in the Yale Bowl, thrown open for the first time for a spring event. He cracked a leg in the Harvard game and was out for the rest of the trip but he had toured Washington and had been received by the British ambassador, Sir Esme Howard, and by President and Mrs. Coolidge at the White House.

Bill did most of his European traveling third-class, and in many countries that called for fortitude. He would sit down and sprinkle lice powder all around his train seat, and at night he just got off and slept in a hotel.

He went up to St. Moritz and learned to ski and skate, and went over to the Riviera and was bored by so many "old people." He played a little roulette at Monte Carlo with the rest of the tourists, and visited the Scotch castles, and went to a dinner party at Lady Astor's town house, where he met the Prince of Wales and was astounded at the sight of Lord Londonderry in silk stockings and knee breeches.

Bill tried everything once. He spent a summer vacation with an archaeological expedition in southern France. He was captain of the Pembroke tennis team and in his final year was president of the Johnson society and the Teasel club. He had acquired another cut-down car, and went up to Poland to spend the holidays with a young Pole with whom he had made friends. Not until he arrived at the friend's remote lakeside home did it occur to him that he couldn't speak Polish and no one in the household could speak English -- or French, in which language he conversed more or less satisfactorily with his friend. He spent the holidays walking around the lake.

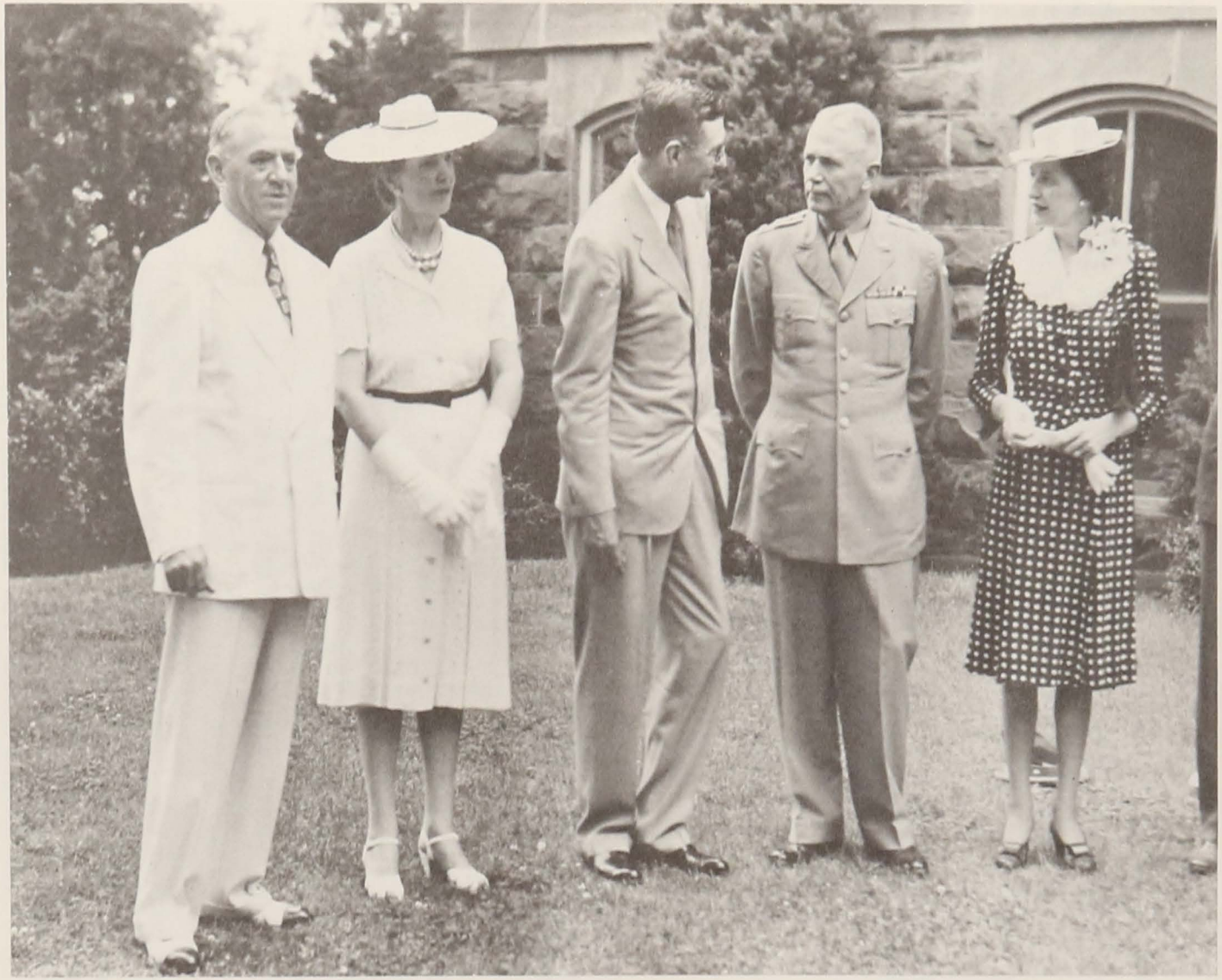
After graduation Bill stayed on in Vienna for the next year, studying German at the University of Vienna. At the Cafe du Louvre on Wipplinger Strasse, where the newspaper correspondents gathered every night before they filed their reports at the nearby cable office, he met M. W. Fodor, then correspondent for the New York Evening Post and the Manchester Guardian, and the outstanding correspondent of Central Europe. Fodor shared his press cards with his young friend and took him down through the Balkans in a series of press conferences with Balkan rulers, in which Bill learned something of the practical application of governmental theory and struck up a good many bizarre acquaintances. Fodor, author of several books on current history, returned to the United States recently and is now teaching at the Illinois Institute of Technology. During Bill Fulbright's presidency at the University of Arkansas Fodor came there to lecture and was a guest at the Fulbright home.

Bill is a graduate of George Washington University, with the degree of LL.B. He graduated with distinction and was elected to the Order of the Coif. He took a turn as special attorney in the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice, and with Walter Rice represented the NRA in the famous live-chicken case in Brooklyn which was made the test case in the appeal of the U. S. Supreme Court which resulted in abolishment of the NRA. He went back to George Washington University as a teacher, and came home to resume his management of Fulbright interests and to join the University of Arkansas faculty.

Justice Owen J. Roberts of the U. S. Supreme Court used to represent Betty's father as an attorney, and is an old friend of the family. Bill hasn't been lonely in Washington; he was pretty well acquainted there by the time he came home several years ago.

Bill ran for Congress because his friend Clyde Ellis resigned from Congress to run for the Senate, and Bill figured it couldn't do any harm to try. He had a lot of fun. He went to rallies and picnics and dinners on the ground, where chicken and layer cake and homemade jellies are spread beside mountain streams. He went on speaking trips to remote little villages, and once searched vainly for the school superintendent with whom he had corresponded, only to learn that the superintendent was also the town barber and was hard at work in his shop.

Everywhere Bill Fulbright went, into country stores and blacksmith shops and little city parks and barnyards, and on the rostrums of high schools and community houses all over his district, he said the same things: that schools and REA lines and tick eradication are the hopes of his people; that the war must be won with guns and ships and tanks, but that the peace can be kept only with schools all over the world teaching the ideals of free government, and with a sound international economic program giving people everywhere the right to live as free men must. He favors a closer alliance with England; but he adds "I now believe it is time for the United States to take the lead and England to be the minor partner in the struggle for freedom."



When General Brehon Somervell received honorary degree from the University. Left to right: President and Mrs. A. M. Harding, Governor Homer Adkins, General and Mrs. Somervell.

Bill's constituents took the greatest interest in his preparations to leave for Washington. They were afraid he couldn't find a place for the little girls; they hated to see him leave his farm, and close the house and loan the grand piano.

"I sort of hate to see Bill go," said one. "Seems like he takes it so hard."

Probably Congressman Fulbright was not altogether happy about going back to Washington. He has never been able to forget the evening he was introduced at a reception there as Mr.Fulbright from Arkansas. The lady to whom he was presented swept him with a bewildered eye.

"Arkansas," she said. "Arkansas? Oh -- are you the minister from Arkansas?"

If anything like that happens again, Bill's coming home to the Herefords. In the meantime he's working night and day for that international machinery which must bring us a just and lasting peace.

- wchs -

EDITOR'S NOTES

The year 1941 is a typographical error. J.W.Fulbright served as president of the University until June 1941 and was elected to Congress in 1942. The pictures of Rabbit's Foot Lodge were taken by W.J.Lemke and the prints bear dates from 1939 to 1941.

- wchs -

An interesting sidelight on the Fulbright story is the newspaper coverage of his dismissal as UofA president in June 1941. Among the newspaper folks here to cover the story were John Fletcher of the Arkansas Gazette, J. L. Thomasson of the Arkansas Democrat, Ed Thomas of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, Martha Mayer of the Tulsa Tribune, and others. One of the best stories was Miss Mayer's, which appeared in the Sunday Tulsa Tribune, June 15, 1941, under the head:

Another College Merely a Puppet of Politics?
TRUSTEES 'PURGE' ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY
Four Leaders Out - Others are Doomed

The Northwest Arkansas Times (Jim Bohart, editor) was on the streets at 2:30 p.m. with a scoop that was good for several hours. The Times lauded its cub reporter, Jerry Neill, who had picked up his scroop in the washroom of the UA Library when the trustees were in session. On June 9 the Times printed an editorial attack on Governor Adkins under the head "Our Fuehrer". The editorial was widely reprinted.

- wchs -

HISTORY IN FAYETTEVILLE STREET NAMES
Leverett, Storer, Whitham, Lindell
No. 3. by Deane G. Carter

The old Leverett farm of about 80 acres adjoined the University campus on the north, with the large dark green house set far back from Maple Street. The land was divided into building lots around 1900 to form the Leverett Addition to the City of Fayetteville.

The principal street in this section bears the name of the owner of the farm and well-known pioneer educator, Charles H. Leverett. Storer and Whitham are named for two sons of the family, and tradition has it that Lindell is also named for a member of the family -- this has not been confirmed.

The Leverett School was also named for the Leveretts, and appropriately enough, according to Hale's History of the University of Arkansas which states that the number of children in this family was "almost reason enough for a Fayetteville grade school to be named after him." Miss Hattie Williams, a close friend of the family, listed the names of the Leverett children as: Fred, Julia, Mary, Storer, Annie, Charlie, Abbie, Rose, Edward, Gorham, Whitham, Nina and Ena.

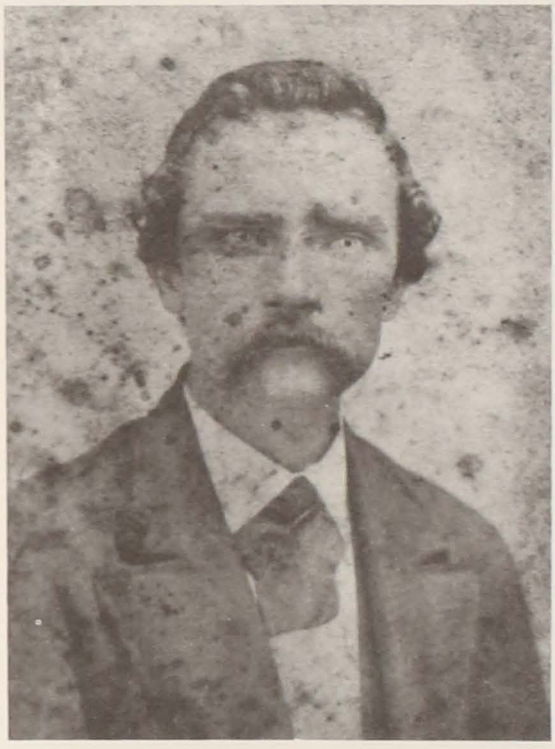
The late Miss Williams, member of the WCHS, recalled that Gorham Leverett was named for the Gorham family of silver famr. She also remembered that one of the Leverett girls wondered how many Gorham silver spoons had been pushed through a knothole in the kitchen floor in the years they lived in the big house. And she remembered Professor Leverett as an elderly man who served as teacher of ancient language in the early 1890s.

In reality, Charles H. Leverett was the first academic member of the staff of the newly-organized Arkansas Industrial University, who, along with President Gates, "entered upon the discharge of their duties on the 15th day of December, 1871." His tenure was not continuous, however, for the whole faculty was dismissed in 1877, then hired back at reduced salaries (Leverett having been employed for $2,000 per year). Again, he was dismissed in 1885 as a consequence of "sweeping changes", but recalled in 1888, this time to serve until succeeded by John C. Futrall in 1895.

Hale's History says in part: "Charles Hendree Leverett, a native of Massachusetts, was educated in South Carolina, receiving the master of arts degree from the state university at nineteen. He taught in that state until he enlisted in the Confederate Army, in which he served three years. In 1868 he came to Arkansas to have charge of a private high school at Searcy. The next year he taught in Ozark Institute, three miles northwest of Fayetteville. Thus the family was a part of the developing community for almost 30 years." (with the help of notes by Hattie Williams and Grace Albright, and Hale's History of the University of Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Russell

Elizabeth Ann Russell
(Mrs. Craig)



George (Buck) Russell

Samantha Russell
(Mrs. Morrow)

All photos by courtesy of the authors of the accampanying article, Conrad Q. Russell and Lacy McColloch. The tintype of George Russell was made by Howerton & Cook, City Art Gallery, North Side of Square, which was probably Fayetteville's first professional photo studio.

JAMES BRYANT RUSSELL
1803 - 1899
by Conrad Q. Russell and Lacy P. McColloch

(Editor's note: FLASHBACK takes pride in presenting this authoritative account of the Russells of Old Cane Hill, written by two great-grandsons of the pioneer, James Bryant Russell. Both Conrad Russell and Lacy McColloch are members of our WCHS and deserve credit for gathering this information and especially for finding the fine old pictures, some of them hundred-year-old tintypes which have never before been reproduced. -- WJL)

JAMES BRYANT RUSSELL

James Bryant Russell was one of the early settlers of Boonesboro (Cane Hill), Arkansas, and an influential citizen of that community. He was teacher, farmer, merchant, Justice of the Peace, builder of a girls' school, supporter of the college for men, church leader, and state legislator.

James B. Russell, son of James and Ann Bryant Russell, was born in Rhea County, Tennessee, February 22, 1803. He was educated in Tennessee and Alabama to be a teacher and a minister of the Gospel.

Young Russell was married to Ann Coulter, who was born in Rhea County, Tennessee, January 21, 1804. The wedding took place in Rhea County on December 6, 1827, and in 1831 they moved to Northwest Arkansas. Information is lacking on the families that may have moved with the Russells from Rhea County, Tennessee to Arkansas. It is believed, however, that the Coulter family was already settled at Boonesboro when the Russells arrived. George Russell, brother of James B., either accompanied him or joined him later.

James B. and Ann Russell settled first near Woodruff's spring at Rhea's Mill, but remained there no longer than a year. In the fall of 1832 Russell took charge of teaching a school opened by his brother-in-law Maurice Wright. This school was located about three miles north of Boonesboro on property that for years has been known as the Trostle place (presently owned by Vol T. Rutherford). This farm is about a quarter of a mile northwest of the present White Church. The foundation of the old school can still be seen there.

Goodspeed states in his "History of Northwest Arkansas" that J. B. Russell moved one or one and a half miles south of Boonesboro in 1832. Actually his homestead was at least two miles south of Boonesboro. The land where he staked his claim was covered by native timber or by dense stands of bamboo (cane), both the small and the large type. Legend has it that the Russells and perhaps two or three other families camped on the road leading south from Boonesboro and followed animal trails through the woods and cane brakes in search of home sites.

The presence of dense stands of bamboo or cane were indicative of the most fertile soil. Russell located a homesite about half a mile west of the campsite. He reported that it took four men three days to cut an ox-road through the canebrake to the homesite. Some of the cane was reported to be 16 feet tall. After the cane was cut and cured, it was burned to clear the roadway. Explosions from the burning cane sounded like heavy gunfire. J. B. Russell stated that wild deer, bear, and turkey were so plentiful that he didn't butcher a hog for ten years after he settled there.

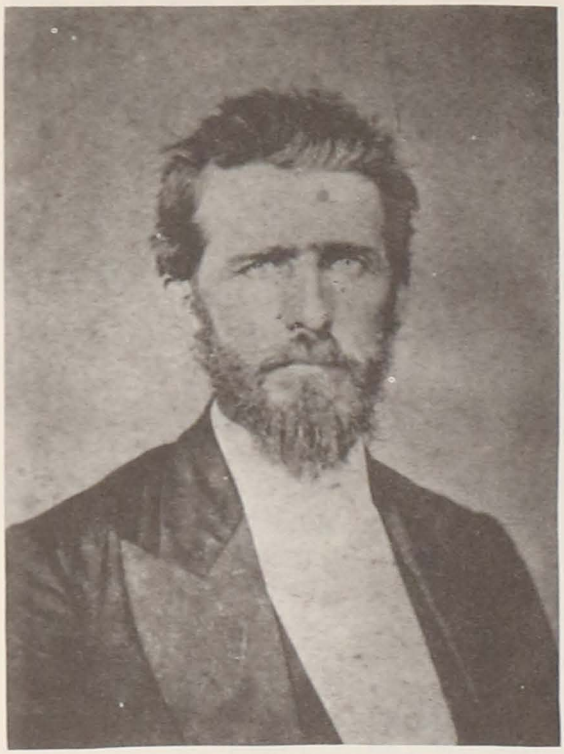
The opening of a roadway to the new home formed a "Y" as it branched in a westerly direction from the existing road running south from Boonesboro. The roads follow about the same course today. After Russell cleared his land and got a successful farming operation under way he, with slaves to do much of the work, built and operated a general merchandise store near the forks of the road. The area was gradually settled, and Russell's store became known as Russellville. The community was later renamed New Town, and years later, when the post office was established, the name was changed to Clyde.

J. B. Russell was a Justice of the Peace, and at the time of the much discussed Wright murders, he held the inquest and presided at the trial of the accused.

Russell was a successful farmer and businessman. He was one of the first nurserymen of the area, a general farmer and a breeder of horses and mules. The land was new and fertile and the farm prospered, as did the general store. Until the Civil War J. B. Russell was a prosperous man.

He was a strong supporter of education and was a member of the board at the time the Cane Hill College was chartered. He believed that girls should have the same opportunities for education as boys. To this end he built and equipped a school for girls which became known as Cane Hill Female Seminary. The school was located near his store at Russellville which was in Cane Hill Township. When funds were being raised to build the Cane Hill College, Russell proposed to donate the Seminary property to the church provided $500.00 was raised in his name for the College. The Female Seminary prospered and the attendance became so large that an additional building was needed. Cane Hill Seminary became as famous for the education of young women as Cane Hill College was for the education of young men. Both schools flourished until the Civil War caused them to close. During the war the buildings were burned.

James B. Russell was active in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where he served as an Elder for many years. He was very strict in seeing that his family attended church regularly. In addition to their seven children, the Russells reared eight orphaned children that were relatives. All received the same treatment and advantages. The young people rode horseback to church, and the neighbors seeing them pass on Sunday morning would say, "There goes Russell's Brigade."



Pulaski Russell

W. A. May

"Grandma" Yates

In addition to their own seven children, James B. and Ann Russell reared eight orphaned children of their kinfolks. These were two children of George Russell, brother of James B; four children of Letitia Coulter Meyers, who was Mrs. Russell's sister; and two children of Mary C. Russell and John J. May, daughter and son-in-law of J. B. Russell.

Shown on this page are three of the adopted children of James B. and Ann Coulter Russell. The pictures were supplied by the authors of the accompanying story of the Russells of old Cane Hill.

The children of James B. and Ann Coulter Russell were:

1. Mary Catherine, b. March 23, 1829; d. Feb. 10, 1851.
   Married John James May. Their children were:
   1. James Thomas, b. May 27, 1845; d. Feb. 19, 1865.
   2. William Anderson, b. Aug. 17, 1847.
   3. John A., b. Apr. 4, 1849.

2. Elizabeth Ann, b. Aug. 20, 1830. Married James G. Craig.
   Their children were:
   1. Charles Russell, b. Mar. 29, 1854.
   2. Edward Albert, b. Nov. 5, 1860.
   3. George McGrady, b. Sept. 17, 1862.
   4. James Samuel, b. Feb. 3, 1867.

3. Altavena, b. Sept. 11, 1835. Married J. T. Buchanan, Oct. 29, 1859.
   Their children were:
   1. Mary, b. Aug. 16, 1862
   2. Naoma, b. Sept. 14, 1867

4. James McGrady, b. Feb. 17, 1837; d. July 11, 1931.
   Married Mary Rebecca Beller July 20, 1859. Their children were:
   1. William Campbell, b. Dec. 22, 1861; d. Oct. 28, 1938.
   2. Evert Elba, b. Jan. 16, 1869; d. Aug. 15, 1948.
   3. Ola, b. May 24, 1871.
   4. Nona, b. July 15, 1876.
   5. Belle Izora Roberson (adopted), b. Jan. 1, 1886.

5. George Thomas, b. Nov. 15, 1838. Married Sarah Hagood.
   Their children were:
   1. Charles
   2. James Maurice, b. Jan. 3, 1879.
   3. Mary G., b. Feb. 9, 1893.

6. Samantha, b. Jan. 14, 1840. Married George W. Morrow.
   Their children were:
   1. Anne Elizabeth, b. July 1, 1867.
   2. William Robert, b. Apr. 9, 1869.
   3. Maggie May, b. Oct. 1, 1870.
   4. Stella Jane, b. Oct. 21, 1872.
   5. Hugh Oscar, b. Dec. 6, 1876.
   6. Ena, b. Aug. 7, 1879.

7. Samuel Pylant, b. Sept. 22, 1844; d. July 18, 1936.
   Married Elizabeth Evelyn Yates. Their children were:
   1. Allie Elizabeth, b. Mar. 7, 1868; d. Apr. 25, 1958.
   2. James Ollie, b. Dec. 14, 1874; d. Feb. 9, 1957.

The orphaned children reared by the Russells were:
Malinda and Pulaski Russell, children of George Russell, a brother of James B.
Katherine, William, James, and Emma Meyers, children of Letitia Coulter Meyers, sister of Ann Coulter Russell.
William (Willie) and Thomas May, children of Mary Catherine Russell and John J. May, daughter and son-in-law of J. B. Russell.

The Civil War brought tragic changes to a prosperous community. There was great privation not only for lack of food but because of the loss of homes. In addition to the school buildings, all homes not occupied by soldiers or officers were burned. When word came that the houses were to be burned, the Russell women and some of the neighbors gathered bedding and personal effects and hid them in the Leach cave about one-half mile distant. Mary Beller Russell, wife of eldest son James McGrady, had been teacher and head of the music department at the seminary. When Northern soldiers appeared to burn the house, she persuaded them to carry her piano out in the yard. When this was done she sat down and played "Dixie" while the house burned.

All of the sons and adopted sons served in the Southern Army. Tom May was killed, together with Sam Inks, just west of Boonesboro by bushwhackers. James McGrady (Gee) Russell was in Fagan's Brigade, Brooks' Regiment, Earle's Company. He lost his right arm by cannonball in the battle of Prairie Grove. Samuel P. Russell was captured early in the war, along with other men in his company, while waiting to have their horses shod. He was imprisoned at Rock Island, Illinois, and almost starved to death. Many soldiers died in prison. Such were the conditions that many ate mice and rats, and even a bulldog that belonged to a guard disappeared.

The end of the war brought many problems. A resolution passed in Boonesboro in 1861 declared in favor of J. B. Russell, David Walker, C.W. Deane and James H. Stirman for delegates to the state convention. J.B. Russell also served in the sixteenth legislature from November 5, 1866 to March 23, 1867. In addition to this, he spent his years rebuilding his home and farm, and remained active in political and church work throughout his life.

He died August 16, 1899, and his funeral services were conducted by a nephew, Dr. Samuel Lafayette Russell, Cumberland Presbyterian minister and teacher, from Gaylesville, Alabama.

(Editor's note: If any of our readers are interested in other pioneer families of the Cane Hill area, they are invited to inspect Mrs. Richardson's "Early Families", a copy of which is available in our WCHS office. FLASHBACK has published much Cane Hill material. Our "Index" shows the following titles of articles: Battle, Cemetery, Churches, College, Classbooks of the 1870s, Doctors, Early Land Entries, First Settlers, Missionary Society, Moore Family Records, Old Mill, Postal History.

Several of our members are collecting material about Cane Hill, among them Mrs. Dismukes of Westville, Lacy McColloch of Washington, Conrad Q. Russell of Cane Hill, and Conrow R. Miller of Chattanooga. We will be glad to send addresses if you would like to contact them. --WJL)

RECORDS OF THE SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH (Springdale)

(6th Installment)

October 1874 -- By the request of Bro. Silas Holcomb the Church says she withdraws the right hand of fellowship from him.... By the request of Bro. & Sister Throneberry, the Church grants them letters of dismission in good order.

April 1875 -- Agree to postpone the time of our Communion meeting until August.... Agree to answer request of Big Spring Church asking our official aid in ordaining Bro. Richard Wood to the Ministry.

August 1875 -- Excluded Bro. M.P.Daniels for contempt of the Church, for asking the Church publicly to exclude him.... Elected Elders N. F. Goodrich, A.G.Smith & Bro. E.Atwood delegates and Bro. John Peerson as alternate, to our next Association.

October 1875 -- Received Bro. M. P. Mims by letter in our Church fellowship, letter also stating that he was authorized to exercise his gift in preaching the gospel.

December 1875 -- Appointed Bro. A. G. Smith doorkeeper and instruct him not to allow strange persons to preach in our Church house unless they are well recommended.

February 1876 -- On motion the Church withdrew the hand of fellowship from Sister Margaret Lynch for joining a so-called church not of our faith and order.

May 1876 -- Appointed Brethren A.G.Smith, John Peerson, Hugh Smiley, W. H. Holcombe & Evans Atwood a committee to prepare seats and a stand for the Church house.

June 1876 -- Withdrew the hand of Church fellowship from Sister Cynthia Ann Lynch for joining a so-called church not of our faith.

August 1876 -- Opened the door for reception of members and received Sister Susan Kendrick by letter and Sister Laura Petross by experience and as a candidate for baptism.

September 1876 -- Granted Bro. & Sister Isaac N. and Rebecca Stafford letters of dismission.

December 1876 -- Owing to the death and burial services of our Pastor, Eld. Jno. Holcomb, the Church failed to meet in conference this month.

January 1877 -- The Church agrees to choose a Pastor at the next regular meeting and requests all the members to be in attendance then.

February 1877 -- Chose Elders N.F. Goodrich & A.G. Smith as our Pastors....Appointed Brethren John Peerson and A. G. Smith to confer with one member from each of the other denominations interested in this Church house to devise means for keeping the house in good order.... Withdrew hand of Church fellowship from Sister Elisabeth Bowerman (formerly Daniels) for contempt of the Church.

March 1877 -- Report called for from committee appointed to confer with the other two denominations in reference to taking care of the Church house. Committee is continued to finish such duties as are called for in said report.

April 1877 -- Agree to attend to the Lord's Supper and Washing the Saints Feet at night at our next regular meeting and to be observed at night hereafter until changed by the Church.... Agree to invite official aid from Richland, West Fork and Little Flock churches together with as many of their members as can attend with us at that time.

May 1877 -- The Church rescinds the act at last meeting relative to night communion and agrees to attend to it at the usual time.

June 1877 -- By request of Sister Martha Bynum the Church grants her a letter of dismission....The Church appoints Bro. W.H. Holcomb to see what arrangements can be made to raise means to purchase the interest in the Church building held by the Methodists.

July 1877 -- Report received from Bro. W. H. Holcomb in reference to raising means to purchase the Methodist interest in Church House. The Church agrees to take no further action on that subject at present.

August 1877 -- Door of the Church was opened and received Bro. & Sister James & Anna Brown by relation into our church fellowship.

June 1878 -- Appointed Bros. John Peerson and W. H. Holcomb to visit Sister Milla Anne Eaton in reference to a report against her that she had joined the Campbellites....Door of Church opened and received Bro. & Sister Daniel McD. Slaughter and Sarah Slaughter by relation....Letters of dismission to Bro. W. & Sister E. Killebrew.... Withdrew hand of Church fellowship from Sister Susan Mayfield (who was lettered from us) for joining a church not of our faith and order.

August 1878 -- Elder N. F. Goodrich and Bros. W. H. Holcomb & Evans Atwood elected delegates to Association meeting, and John Peerson alternate....Eld. D.McD. Slaughter was Moderator and Evans Atwood clerk.

September 1878 -- Illinois Church requested our official aid at her next meeting, which on motion was granted.

November 1878 -- Elder Z. Stephens served as Moderator pro tem.... Opened door for reception of members and received Sister Mary Jane Peerson by experience and as a candidate for baptism.

February 1879 -- Received and read a letter of acknowledgement from Bro. Jno. Ingram who was once excluded from this Church asking to be returned. Action on this was postponed to some future conference, and Eld. A. G. Smith appointed to write to him for further information.

(The foregoing is the last record in Book No. 1 of the old Shiloh Church records. The records we have published to date are from 1840 to 1879. Book No.2 covers the period from 1879 to 1904. Book No.3 has the records from 1904 to 1936.--WJL)

TWO OLD PICTURES
of the

ZION SCHOOL (about 6/8 miles southeast of Springdale) 1900

Front row, l to r:

1. Harmon Horn (?)
2. Garland Ivey
3. ??
4. Frank Horn
5. ??
6. Carl Lindley
7. Grover Lindley
8. Mertie Anderson
9. Sarah Horn
10. Minnie Cardwell
11. Gertie Ivey
12. ??
13. Sally Eidson
14. Ethel Lindley
15. Sallie Anderson
16. Bessie Cardwell
17. Laura Andler
18. ??
19. Erin Eidson (?)

Back Row:

1. Bruce Hartley
2. ??
3. Bob Riggins
4. Marion Lindley
5. Jeff Jenkins
6. Joe Anderson
7. ??
10. Noah Lindley (?) or Earl Cardwell
9. ??
10. Lula Moneyhun, teacher
11. Annie Eidson
12. Erin Eidson
13. Ethel Jenkins
14. Laura Fox
15. Fannie Anderson
16. Mary Cardwell
17. Lizzie Riggins

These names given as personal knowledge of Jewell (Anderson) Jackson, now deceased. Given 7 June 1965 at her home on Mill St., Springdale.

Picture is property of Mrs. F.M.Lindley, 104 Blair St., Springdale. Brought to the historical society by Mrs. Tressa Fussell of Springdale.

ZION SCHOOL, 6/8 mile south and east of Springdale.
Identifications by Jewell (Anderson) Jackson, 7 June 1965.

Boys seated, left to right:

1. ??
2. Charley Robinson
3. Elbert Gollaher
4. Myron Mills
5. ??
6. ??
7. Earnest O'Neal
8. Perhaps Poley Lindley's boy
9. Charley Mills
10. Charley Graue
11. Otis Cardwell
12. Odie Lindley
13. ??
14. Horace Robinson
15. Lee Fox
16. Jess Huckaby

JEFF BANKS, Teacher
WILSON CARDWELL, Director

To Wilson Cardwell's left:

1. Jerome Gollaher

To Wilson Cardwell's right (boys against the wall)

2. Guy O'Neal
3. Toy Eidson
4. (Perhaps) Fred Andler (?)
5. Frank Horn
6. Ed Plumlee
7. Clyde (Cob) Cardwell
8. Carl Lindley
9. Grover Lindley
10. Garland Ivey
11. ---- Robinson
12. ??
13. Joe Anderson
14. Bob Riggins
15. ---- Fields (?)

At top with girls:

1. Fannie Anderson
2. Harmon Horn
3. Mary Cardwell
4. Clarence Eidson
5. Kate Horn
6. ??
7. Jewell Gollaher
8. Laura Fox
9. Ethel Jenkins
10. Lucy Gollaher
11. Gertie Robinson
12. Laura Andler
13. Myrtle O'Neal
14. Ethel Lindley
15. Jane Cullender
16. Sally Anderson
17. Bessie Cardwell
18. Ethel Alvis

In the windows:

1. Jeff Jenkins
2. F. Marion Lindley
3. John Horn
4. ??

Against wall (girls):

1. Noreen Plumlee
2. Jessie Parker
3. Gertie Ivey
4. Minnie Cardwell
5. Sarah Horn

Seated:

1. Jewell Anderson
2. Beulah Lindley
3. Maud Anderson
4. Lottie Ivey
5. Emma Andler
6. Lizzie Horn
7. ?? (a visitor?)

ZION SCHOOL

See identifications on facing page. About 1900.

A later picture on Zion School. See identifications on facing page.

LETTERS FROM MRS. FINE

A Letter from John Nott

Little River, Texas
September 24, 1890

Mrs. Lizzie Brown
Dear Niece --

Your letter received. Glad to hear from you & that Jimmie is on the way to Tex. also that your Pa is about selling out. I shall expect Jimmie about the last of this month as I learn he started on the 10th. Old man Alfred Hutchens and party staid with us on 10th Sep. He is near Rube Holland. The others are scattered about. Bartlett & Holland getting all the work they care to do. Hope Milly will come with you, as your Aunt Sarah would like to have her. She needs her badly. She will do a good part by Milly or any other girl that she can get.

I learn there are a great many people coming to Tex from different parts of Ark. 20 families left Pine Bluff a few days since. Your Uncle Henry's Willy & family started last week for Oregon. Hoping to see you soon will close. All well.

Your Uncle John

- -- -

(Note: This letter was sent to Mrs. Elizabeth Brown of Fayetteville, Ark. The Jimmie mentioned was James A. Brown, husband of Elizabeth. Milly was her sister and both were daughters of Zach Fine. Aunt Sarah was John Nott's wife. Zach, Sarah and Henry were children of William and Millie (Mankins) Fine and grandchildren of Peter Mankins, Sr. and wife Rachel.

(Alfred Hutchens was son of Anderson and Jane (Winn) Hutchens and a double cousin to Eliza Jane (Hutchens) Fine, wife of Zach Fine.

(Mrs. Elizabeth Brown lives in Fayetteville and is nearing her 96th birthday. She gave me the original letter.

Mrs. Louallen Fine
Rt. 2, Box 174, Lincoln, Ark.)

- wchs -

Part of 1886 Letter

Durham P O Ark
Feb 3rd 1886

Dear Henry

This is a Wednesday night & a very cold & lonely one -- no one to sit by the warm fire but Father, Loucindia & myself as Mother at last after gradually sinking & suffering for six or seven long years sleeps beneath the cold clay of King's old Grave Yard beside some of her dear ones who was laid there to rest not many years ago. Father was taken down with Pneumonia Fever on the 28th day of December & is only now able to sit up around the fire though he could walk about the place some I suppose was it not for the bad cold weather. Mother was low with cough & fever when I reached Home the 1st day of August but recovered to some extent & got able to go about the house & do a little work -- I say able -- she did it but was not at all able.

Well, she & Loucindia took up all the time in being in bed neither able to do anything of account. I kept hired help for them all summer & fall. On the 16th of December I went out to the White Rock & Black Mountains -- was gone several days -- when I returned I found Mother down sick. I went to Fayetteville, got her some new cough syrup which relieved her for a few days when she again got up. On the 28th Father

- -- -

(Note: Rest of letter is missing. It was written to Henry Fine in Texas by George Washington VanHoose, son of John Jackson and Rachel (Mills) VanHoose. Two of their daughters married sons of Jonathan Fine. Mrs. H. H. Benbrook of Fayetteville gave me this added information: "George had been working in Texas. He held her hand during her last hours -- would not leave her bed. She called each of her children to her bed-side and blessed them, admonished them to be good Christians." -- Mrs. Louallen Fine)

- wchs -

Written Before 1900

(Top part of page with date is missing.)

Mr. Henry Fine
Dear Cousin --

You will probably be surprised to hear from me after 20 years silence. I often think of you and Spencer and of the happy times we used to have together when we were boys. George VanHoose is with me now. He came out last Spring. He gave me your address, for I had lost track of you altogether. Aint it strange how friends will get separated and loose each other in this big world of ours, and then by accident hear from them & feel as tho the dead had some to life.

Well, Henry, I am a poor letter writer and don't know that I can say anything to interest you but if I could see you tonight I could talk you to sleep. I often dream that I am a boy again and visiting at your old Home in Ark. and can see Uncle William & Aunt Millie and all the children as if it were 30 years ago.

But then you know Life is but a dream at best, and mine has been a lonely one, almost an entire failure. I never married (thanks to Zede Mays) and so I have no family to eat my bread. Have made plenty of money but like most fools in the Rocky Mountains grew reckless and spent it, and now I'm growing old & need it, when it is harder to make.

Times are pretty good here yet, but not like it was 20 & 25 years ago, when I used to make from one to 5.00 dollars per day in the mines. Wages now are $40 & $50 per month and everything is high. The gold & silver mines are improving by being developed, & the country is fast increasing in population & I have made a good living.

Write to me Henry & tell me all the news. Tell me if you know where Henry Mankins is. Tell Spencer to write to me. Remember me kindly to Cynthia & tell her I would be glad to see her. George sends love to you all.

I am as ever your Friend &c

Jake M. VanHoose,
White Sulphur Springs, Montana

- -- -

(Note: This letter was written before 1900 as Cynthia (wife of Henry Fine) died Aug. 24, 1900. Henry died Aug. 2, 1907. His only living child, Mrs. Anna Hartman, Fort Worth, Texas, loaned me the original letter. She is 83 years old. Jake VanHoose, writer of the letter, and George were brothers of James H. VanHoose and all were schoolmates of Henry and Spencer Fine and Henry Mankins in Washington Co., Arkansas. -- Mrs. Louallen Fine)

- wchs -

A BAD MISTAKE

Editors dislike to apologize for mistakes. But it becomes necessary for us to confess that we erred in the "Henry Starr" article in the February issue of Flashback. We said that Starr's accomplices in the Harrison bank robbery were never brought to trial. Karl Greenhaw, our WCHS neighbor at 12½ E.Center St., tells us that he prosecuted both of these men and they were sent to the penitentiary. Their names were Charley Brackett and Rufus Rowland. My only excuse for this historical error is that it took a long time to drag the information out of the one-time prosecutor (and later Arkansas Supreme Court justice), mostly while we were having a coffee break in our history office. We thought we were in the clear when we reproduced the xerox copy of Starr's death-bed confession, in Karl Greenhaw's handwriting, and did not expect to have the former prosecutor walk in and tell us that we were wrong. But we were wrong. Sorry. -- WJL

- wchs -

SAVE YOUR BACK NUMBERS

Our secretary, Deane G. Carter, gets frequent requests for back numbers of FLASHBACK and copies of some of 49 numbers that we have published in our Booklet Series. Luckily for us, some of our members save their old numbers and return them to us for re-sale. The secretary is now trying to complete FLASHBACK files for a number of university and public libraries. The moral is, Don't throw your old issues away; they are worth money to our Society.

- wchs -

HE FOUGHT AT PRAIRIE GROVE

(Editor's note: Through the courtesy of Mrs. S. D. Troutman of Hazleton, Indiana, we have a back number (August, 1964) of the Indiana History Bulletin, containing a collection of letters written by Captain Robert F. Braden of the 26th Indiana Regiment in the Civil War. We are reprinting three letters that he wrote from Prairie Grove and one from Fayetteville. -- WJL)

Prairie Grove, Dec. 9, 1862

Dear Mother,

We have had quite a fight - day before yesterday - the 7th inst. and all whom you know in the regiment were untouched. Logan, John, Mr. Hood & Doc Dearthall are safe. George Las was wounded, painfully, but not dangerously. Send word to the families of those I mentioned, as soon as possible. Lieut. Murphy of Capt. Logan's Co. was wounded, not dangerous.

We whipped them, although we did not find it out for nearly a day afterwards, when they had fallen back & left us the field of battle. The loss of our regiment was quite severe, having had 201 killed & wounded out of 450 engaged. John, who is a full Colonel now, had his sword shot off but was otherwise untouched.

Affectny your son Robt

- wchs -

Prairie Grove Ark Dec. 12, 1862

Dear Mother,

We have now had five days since the battle...to rest and attend to our wounded & pay the last sad rites to our dead. The wounded have all been removed to Fayetteville, a town (formerly) of about 1000 inhabitants, twelve miles in our rear, and the dead all decently buried, and we are now prepared to move onward.

You have often heard (of) the sad feeling which soldiers have after the battle is over and the cries of the wounded are ringing through the woods. This we were partly spared, as the ambulances started immediately after the battle and before morning had gathered up all those hurt, and besides that we fully expected the battle to be renewed in the morning and therefore did not have time to give way to melancholy feelings.

In the morning after the battle the friends of the Rebel dead (mostly females) came on the field to take away the bodies and right on the hill where our regiment suffered so severely, one of the women found her husband & two brothers in one pile. Our regiment was stationed about one mile from where she found the bodies, but so intense was her grief & rage that we could plainly hear her shrieks & cries...and at first were much shocked at what seemed her heart broken agony, but as we found out the burthen of her woe, in spite of its tragic sound, we did not feel so badly about the matter.

Her words ran about in this wise "Oh my poor dear husband, Oh my poor brothers -- your souls are in heaven, your spirits are with the just. Oh it was them God-damned Federals that killed you. I wish they were in hell!" & so on and this strain she kept up for hours.

Of course as to the generalities of battle you have read enough of them to sicken you, and in the main they are all alike. The cannon get up on a hill and fire away, and the infantry are formed behind & on either side of the batteries to prevent them from being taken. The cavly are still in the rear of the infantry, ready to cover a retreat or follow up a flying enemy. The cannon fire away, the infantry resist or make an attack, & all move from one point to another as occasion requires, and that is a battle.

But no one sees all that takes place and therefore the history of a battle is only known by the addition of what we have seen thus getting the sum of what took place.

Some amusing things occur (amusing after the battle is over) for I did not feel at all like laughing at them at the time and many heroic acts were performed by those no one imagined would have any heroism about them.

As we came off the field the bullets were flying seemingly as thick as hail and nearly every one was struck either in his person or clothing. (I was one of three in my company who did not receive a mark of a bullet)...

Your affct Son R F Braden

- wchs -

Prairie Grove Ark Dec. 22, 1862

My dear Mother,

The mail came in this morning, the first we have had for twenty days. I was very glad indeed to hear from you. I laughed till the tears ran out of my eyes at your account of the runaway, "just after you got inside the gate", and I would have given a month's pay to have seen you, Nettie and that paragon of a boy pulling at the lines and hollowing woa, woa, while going across the wheatfield -- It must have been a decidedly rich affair, and I must say that it was not in keeping with your character of a sick woman, and if you intend remaining on the sick list you must give up fast horses, for it don't look well at all to see you dashing around in that kind of style. It is too fast entirely. You wrote me about the suffering I had endured from the weather. At least you used the pronoun "you" and I do not know whether you meant me or the soldiers, but I know I never said a word about my sufferings, for it is not so. I have never even been reduced to extremities by or for anything. The men suffered for want of heavy clothing and shoes when the snow fell in November...

But if you could look into my tent tonight, you would feel convinced that soldiering -- as a Captain -- is not so bad after all. You know I am allowed a tent, nine feet wide & ten feet long. In one corner is a sheet iron stove, with which the tent can be made red hot all over, in the other corner is a box with folding lid, which holds my uniform and traps, and when opened makes a very convenient desk. On the other side is my bed, so I have every thing convenient and comfortable, and in spite of dirt floors, and no bed tick (for I have not succeeded in getting that useful article yet) I think I am quite a neat housekeeper. At least it has quite a comfortable look and is not at all a bad place to be in of a cold rainy day.

Your affectionate son Robt F Braden

- wchs -

Fayetteville Ark Jany 3, 1863

My dear Mother,

Your kind letter of the 25th ult. reached me today, and if my letters get to you as infrequent and as seldom as yours do to me, you are not troubled with many. Your letter came through in less time than any I have yet heard of, being only nine days on the route while it generally requires three weeks.

You will have seen from the papers that we went to VanBuren and Ft. Smith clear down into the rebels stronghold, and they did not attempt to stop us -- in fact -- skedadled like wild turkies.

I do wish we could drive the rebels out of Arkansas and get possession of the Arkansas River, or that they would drive us back to some Railroad so we could occasionally hear from home for now it is only an occasional mail that comes in, and then the letters are of such an old date that anything may have happened in the meantime. You have no doubt heard of George Rash's death. He died while we were at VanBuren. His wounds were not thought mortal but he took the chills, and that and his wound together soon took him off... Four of my men have died since -- making with the two killed on the field six which I have lost by the battle - two others have had their legs amputated, and two more are crippled so that they will be discharged from the service.

The hospitals have been fitted up in a style I thought impossible so far from where anything could be procured and the men are now very comfortably situated. We got about 1000 mattresses - cotton mattresses - from those steamboats at VanBuren and now each man is supplied with a comfortable bed. For the first week the hospitals were in a miserable condition as the supplies were scant, and the rooms crowded, and the stench, to one unaccustomed to it, unbearable, but now every thing is clean -- the floors are scrubbed and the walls whitewashed three times a week. Dr. Florer, formerly of Jefferson, is our Regimental Surgeon, and is well liked by all. He reached us just the day before the battle -- in good time, was it not?

Yr affctn son Robert F Braden

- wchs -

NEWS AND NOTES

Recent visitors to our office have been the Lacy McCollochs of Kensington, Md. (he was born in old Cane Hill, Ark.); Ed A. Yeater, also retired to a country home at Winslow, Ark.; and W.B.Richardson, a retired school teacher from Bonham, Texas, who has built a home on Highway 59 south of Dutch Mills. He has many historical relics and archaeological artifacts and plans to display these in a new museum near his home.

- wchs -

Miss Mary D. Hudgins, 1030 Park Ave., Hot Springs, Ark., is collecting information about songs for which the music was composed or the lyrics were written by Arkansas musicians. She is stuck with a song called "Astralita Serenade." The composer was S.D.A lbright and the lyricist was Mabel Whaley. The sheet music says the song was published at Red Star, Ark. in 1916. If you know anything about this song, write to Miss Hudgins. She is a University of Arkansas graduate.

- wchs -

CEPHAS WASHBURN AT OLD MT. COMFORT

(Dedication address at Mt. Comfort Church, Fayetteville, Aug. 1, 1965)
by
Maj. Gen. Lee B. Washbourne, USAF Ret.

Members of the Washington County Historical Society, members of the Mt. Comfort Rural Improvement Association, distinguished guests and friends:

I don't know when, if ever, I have had such personal pleasure as my coming over here today is bringing me. Fayetteville has been an electric name in our family since I can first remember. I had Pea Ridge and pablum together from my grandfahter. To go over this ground and review with you the accomplishments of our forefathers is truly a treat. I feel I am not really a stranger here, since over at Jay, Oklahoma, they say we live in Lapland, "where Arkansas laps over into Indian Territory," as it once really did of course back in 1827. As a plebe at West Point, I have many times recited, in the negative and with proper gusto, to the proposition of changing the name of Arkansas as orated by Congressman Jackson so long ago.

I started my military career as a second lieutenant of Engineers on the Mississippi and White Rivers in the big flood of 1927, being stationed at such "large" cities as Huffman, Des Arc and Newport. Near the latter, some maps carry the name of Washbourne Crevasse, a negative distinction I would as soon forget, since we lost a sand bagging operation and the river ruined much valuable farm land.

Some twelve years later, as a captain, I served again in Arkansas with the newly-organized engineer district at Little Rock. And again I came here briefly from SAC headquarters in 1950 to locate the bomber base near that city.

I have read the White River gauge at Calico Rock; admired the Buffalo River valley from the hill near Rush; and marvelled at the torrent of cold, blue water at Mammoth Spring. I have long known that northwest Arkansas is indeed the paradise that many people are only recently recognizing it to be.

Both sides of my family have roots in this community. My grandfather was born here. My great-grandsire, J.W. Washbourne, lived here much of his life. And his father, the Rev. Cephas Washburn, one of today's honorees, served here and hereabout for ten years. Another great-great grandsire, the renowned Major Ridge, was assassinated at Sugar Hill in Washington County, 21 miles southwest of this spot; and both the Ridge families found refuge among you from the deadly feud that racked the Cherokee Nation after the removal from Georgia. For which I would thank you again. My great-grandmother, Sarah Bird Northrop Ridge, is buried in this churchyard. Nor were all the Confederate arms borne on my father's side; my mother's grandfather was Capt. Wm. Hicks Hendren, who raised and commanded a company in the Gravette area of Benton County. So let us do this together, as close neighbors!

Immigrants began arriving in Washington County around 1820. Liking what they found, they became settlers, and multiplied. They originally nicknamed Arkansas "the Bear State," because of so many wild bears in the caves, with Sylvanus Blackburn and his son Josiah up on War Eagle being perhaps the most famous bear hunters of them all. But that colorful title long since gave way to that of "Wonder State," to reflect the richness of its minerals, the productivity of its fields and orchards, and the burgeoning of its industrial enterprises. Now it is the Land of Opportunity, as advertised.

Life in Arkansas Territory was difficult; and the pioneers who built it were hardy folk. Their background was almost entirely colonial. I have heard it said, partly in jest, that the folks in North Arkansas are so pure of lineage that they still speak Chaucer up at the forks of the creek. Our forebears were industrious, courageous, optimistic and determined. As they sometimes say in sports, "They came to play." They believed in an honest day's work, and still do. They are serious about their churches; one attended or had to write the deacons an explanation. But they were not above enjoying a frolic; the ballads, mountain music, and square dances of the Ozarks, highlighted by such foot-patting tunes as "Turkey in the Straw", have become famous the world over. Of such solid stuff were the pioneers of Mt. Comfort also made; and we ourselves are honored today in having this opportunity to review their record in education. Our congratulations to the Memorial Association of the Mt. Comfort Improvement Club for providing this excellent memorial!

Though most of the early Arkansawyers were short on formal schooling, they recognized its value and sacrificed willingly to provide what could be had for their children. And it was here at Fayetteville that these early days just after Statehood saw the beginning of several Arkansas institutions that formed the cornerstones of your great university. Ante-bellum schools had given this county a reputation for education that no other section could match; and its wide reputation for culture and scholarship made it a shoo-in 25 years later as the site of the University of Arkansas.

And the fact that so many of the Fayetteville schools were for women and girls reminds me to digress a moment on the lighter side. Back in 1954, when we were recommending to Congress a site for the new Air Force Academy, one of the final three choices was Colorado Springs, Colo.; but its competitors were quick to point out that the city and indeed the area had no large or well-known girls' school to provide a social balance for the three or four thousand choice young men of the Academy. Adequate and prompt remedial action was promised and sworn to and Colorado Springs landed the prize. How much easier it must have been for Fayetteville a hundred years ago, with guaranteed women already at hand!!

Right here at Mt. Comfort in 1840, there came together two eminent men; and here were organized two of the best-known schools of the time. I refer, of course, to the Far West Seminary and Rev. Cephas Washburn; and to the Ozark Institute and Rev. Robt. Mecklin. Both were typical of the dedicated men who built Arkansas.

Cephas Washburn was born a Vermont Yankee in 1793. He studied Latin and Greek at Andover Academy; graduated from the University of Vermont in 1817; was ordained a minister in 1818, (somewhat of a tradition in his and his wife's family). He married Abigail Woodward right away and went to Georgia as missionary to the western Cherokees. Finding Chief Toluntuskee's people already moved to Arkansas Territory, he followed them out; and in 1820 near Russellville founded Dwight Mission, the first Protestant school in Arkansas. After ten years, he removed with them to Oklahoma's Indian Territory, and refounded the school on Sallisaw Creek as New Dwight. Ten years after that, the deep political split within the Cherokee Nation, aggravated as it was by the infamous Trail of Tears, forced him to seek refuge in Arkansas. Though his letter of resignation to the Board of Foreign Missions said the move was "for the future welfare and usefulness of his children," the real reason was probably fear for the family's safety. It is said that, for preaching John Ridge's funeral, he had to close the Mission and leave the Nation within a year, or forfeit his life.

Settled on a farm at Osage Mills, 12 miles north of here in Benton County, this 47-year-old scholar, to provide bread for his family, taught school and organized local churches. He was much away from his own fireside. He taught literature, religion and the classics at Miss Sawyer's Female Seminary in Fayetteville, and was joined by Robt. Mecklin, Isaac Murphy, Rev. Larremore and others in operating a school in the Mt. Comfort Church, a small brick building that stood just outside the east window there. It is said many of his pupils at Dwight Mission 20 years earlier brought their offspring to Mt. Comfort school. The girls went to Mt. Comfort Female Academy.

Robert Mecklin was born in South Carolina in 1795, schooled in Athens, Georgia (later the University of Georgia), and taught at Little Rock in 1833 before coming on to Fayetteville in 1836 to organize and operate the Female Academy, the other girls' school. He resigned there in 1840 to join the staff of the Far West Seminary at Mt.Comfort.

The Far West Seminary prospered, and its founders were soon ready for better things. They obtained funds from the Ridge widows, and from Solomon Tuttle and other neighbors. Land was donated. In 1843 the Rev. Larremore obtained money in St.Louis. On Nov. 11, 1843, the Seminary's Board of Visitors published a 5-column advertisement and solicitation for funds for the Seminary in most of the State's major newspapers. In 1844, the Far West Seminary was formally incorporated; it was advertised and expected to be the first college-level school in Arkansas. A quarter-mile east of here, also in 1844, was founded the Ozark Institute, intended to be its "prep school," but destined by circumstances to be the more famous of the two.

Early in February 1845, before the new Seminary buildings were completed, they were completely gutted by fire of unrecorded origin. There had been surprisingly strong political reaction throughout the state to the Board of Visitors letter of 1843. Judge Paschal, a Supreme Court Justice, a member of the Board of Visitors, and son-in-law of Major Ridge, drew Whig fire. The Feb. 1, 1845 edition of the Van Buren paper had carried a violent attack on Wm. Lloyd Garrison, the Abolitionist leader then becoming famous in Boston; J. W. Washbourne, Rev. Cephas' son, identified himself as the writer of the editorial.

Thirdly, the new Cherokee Advocate at Tahlequah was regularly attacking the exiled Cherokee families from across the State line, only a half-day's ride to the west. Thus, a burned school building in northwest Arkansas became a symbol of its time. In April 1845 Rev. Washburn journeyed back east to solicit funds for its reconstruction; but he met unexpected rebuffs, not only from his church connections of many years' standing, but even from his own family. They accused the school of being solely designed as a "political move," an organ to oppose abolition. He returned empty-handed, whereupon his son, J. W., the Van Buren editor of the Intelligencer became so incensed at the shabby treatment accorded Rev. Washburn and the two younger children that he changed (at least for himself) the spelling of the family name. When we recall that much open bitterness about slavery existed for more than 20 years before Ft.Sumter, we can be forgiven, and hopefully supported, when we express apprehension about the so-called negro revolution now infecting our national life!

Rev. Mecklin, closely associated with Rev. Washburn in the operation of the schools, then withdrew from the Seminary; and it never opened its doors as a college. Mecklin bought out Washburn's interest, and concentrated on building up and operating the Ozark Institute. It grew rapidly and furnished cadres for Arkansas College and other schools until 1857. Though it suffered badly during the War Between the States Rev. Mecklin never left it. He was buried on its grounds when he died in 1871.

Rev. Washburn continued his church duties at several places, including Mt. Comfort; but spent much time and energy in helping destitute families from the Nation. He established a school on Beatties Prairie, for both white and Cherokee children. When the Treaty of Amnesty was signed between the Cherokee factions on Aug. 6, 1846, the Washington paper account of the ceremony included these words:

> "In speaking of the orphans of the Ridges and Boudinots to Judge Paschal today, the President (Mr. Polk) paid a very just compliment to Rev. Cephas Washburn and Rev. Wm. Potter, men who have used their utmost exertions, since retiring from their missionary labors among the Cherokees, in behalf of the families..."

Washburn continued to teach the classics and conducted religious instruction at Miss Sawyer's Female Seminary in Fayetteville through the 1849 term. His sons, J.W. and Henry, also taught in area schools. When the Fayetteville paper late in 1849 speculated he would be leaving the community "to accept an attractive pastorate," it wished godspeed to "this venerable man."

Early in 1850, Rev. Washburn removed his family to Fort Smith to become pastor of the First Presbyterian Church there. The church flourished, allowing Rev. Washburn some time to organize several other Cumberland Presbyterian churches in northwest Arkansas. In 1855 the latter activity was expanded under the Arkansas Synod, and Rev. Washburn left the Fort Smith pastorate. He built a home in a central location at Old Norristown, and rode the length and breadth of Arkansas, teaching and preaching to its people. He was engaged in arduous travel from his home to Helena on such a mission, when he contracted pneumonia and died at Little Rock in 1860, thus ending four decades of dedicated service to Arkansas as a pioneer pastor and teacher. He lies at Mt. Holly, among a long list of Arkansas' distinguished sons.

That, in all too brief outline, is what Rev. Washburn and Rev. Mecklin did at Mt. Comfort, and we are gathered here today to acknowledge the adequacy of their effort. As we dedicate this memorial wall and the two historical markers to them and to their neighbors and associates, let us dedicate ourselves to renewed devotion to the ideals that inspired these pioneers.

Again let us congratulate the officers and members of the Washington County historical Society and the Mt. Comfort Improvement Club for their long-range programs that record these things for our children and for on-coming generations. Though these youngsters will have their own crises to face in the nuclear age, it will fortify them to know the response their forefathers made to such earthy problems as bread to eat, clothes to wear, shelter from the elements, and basic sustenance of the mind and spirit.

NEWS AND NOTES

Stories about treasure buried during the Civil War are quite common in the Ozarks. We have published the account of the burial of five jars of gold at Dutch Mills, of which only three jars were recovered after the war. Ed A. Yeater came into our office with a copy of his gr-grandmother's diary, in which this paragraph appears:

> "In the spring of 1866 Mr.Yeater went to Fayetteville, determined to get his money. His sister and husband and several of the Northern men from Iowa, Illinois and Michigan, officers in the Arkansas regiments, had settled permanently in Fayetteville and were doing business there, so he now felt safe in searching for the money.
>
> "They searched diligently, even putting horses to a plow and going over most of the hillside.The place was so changed by the cutting down of the trees and the use of the place as camping ground for the army that, not having seen it since it had been a wooded hill, he could not locate the exact place where he had buried it. His being there digging so long - two days - aroused curiosity and men stood around and asked many questions. Mr. Yeater had just told them that he had buried some of his trea sures there during the war when his pick struck something solid and some goldpieces were revealed. Then it was necessary to pledge these bystanders to silence until he could get away with the money."

- wchs -

Writers are always on our historical society stairway, looking for information. Recently we greeted several University students who are doing research and theses on Ozarks subjects. Among them were a graduate student named Bedell who is studying the history of the Negro in the Ozarks; Kathryn Jones, who is majoring in Social Anthropology and researching various immigrant colonies in the Ozarks. And several students who are interested in such aspects of the Civil War as mills and millers, guerrilla activities, reconstruction, etc.

- wchs -

NEGRO CEMETERY AT LINCOLN, ARKANSAS

By Steve Wright and Deane G. Carter

"Charlie Wilson, Born in Slavery, Died June 9, 1950" is the carving on the newest gravestone in an old cemetery just east of Lincoln, in Washington County. The oldest marked grave is that of Isaac Brown, who died in August, 1882, at the age of 82 years. Altogether, the burying ground contains perhaps 150 graves, most of them unmarked except by plain field stones, or with letters only as MR, LP, VIR B and Bob K.

This Negro cemetery lies 100 yards or so to the north and east of the roadside park on U. S. Highway 62 at the edge of Lincoln. The exact location is indicated in a 1908 plat book of Washington County as being on land owned by J. W. Bean with a small area out for "cemetery, Methodist Church and Negro School." The legal description is "the NE¼ of the SE¼ pf Section 30, Twp. 15 N, Range 32 W."

Now in 1966, there is no trace of the church or school, but the cemetery is still indicated by plain sandstones, a few marble markers and unmarked sunken graves. The cemetery has been kept free of briars and weeds, but otherwise it is in poor condition; piles of brush and rubbish mark the north edge of the plot. It is too bad that this burial ground, so close to town, park, and highway cannot have more care.

The identified burials are as follows:

Isaac Brown, d. August 1882, aged 82 years

Ellen Frances Barker, b. Mar. 6, 1884, d. Oct. 18, 1944
Arthur Trim Barker, b. Jan 15, 1884, d. Dec. 15, 1932

Mary Barker, d. Feb., 1909, age 40

Mary Barker and Children, wife of W. C. Barker, 1851-1902

Charlie Wilson, born in Slavery, died June 9, 1950

Mandy Wilson, d. Nov. 4, 1939

Nellie Perkins, d. Nov. 1908, age 28

Laura, wife of William Miller, d. July 17, 1926

Adeline, wife of J. L. Ballard

Doc Kidd, b. 1844, d. Jan. 1894

J. W. Bean, b. Nov. 22, 1827, d. Feb. 22, 1908
Elizy Bean, b. Nov. 10, 1836, d. Mar. 23, 1909
Anderson Been (Bean)
Mandy Bean

J. W. Bean is probably the Wesley Bean who is listed as an early settler by L. D. Carter in his "History of Lincoln" published in the Aug. 1955 FLASHBACK.

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH ON MIDDLE FORK

by F. M. McConnell

Many years ago the Primitive Baptist Church was located northeast of the cemetery, west of the road, and about a quarter of a mile south of what later became known as the Reese farm. The cemetery, too, was at first known as "The Baptist Cemetery." After Hiram C. Reese bought the farm and gave a part of it for use as a graveyard, it became known as the Reese Cemetery.

At that time a road came down the hollow from Lowgap, and the hollow later became known as "Parker Hollow." One fork went along the west side of Middle Fork River via the Wax (Wachs) store to the Gilliland (later the Fawbush) ford. Another fork went up the river and crossed south of the Gregg mill at the shoals north of the "Perry Hole" and joined the Carter's Store at the north end of the A. V. Hicks farm. Another road came down the Haskins Hollow affording an outlet for Haskins, Clark L. Burchett, Jim Sutton and other families, while another road left Highway 74 north of the waterfall (Haskins Branch), and went along the east branch of the river, crossing at the Gilliland ford and then on north via the Pete Mankins farm, crossing the river twice before joining the Fayetteville-Sulphur City road at the Sulphur City ford.

There was also a school at the church which was used for both church and school purposes. Rev. James Mayfield taught there in 1846. Students included George W., Jacob and J. H.VanHoose, Seth T. Mills, Walter and Henry Mankins, Esther Hannah, Adeline Gregg. The Gregg Mill later became known as the Lee Mill. The house was south of the waterfall and east of the road, and at that time there was a road going south from the mill down a steep hill to join the other road north of the A. V. Hicks farm. All these roads except Highway 74 and the "Parker Hollow" road are now closed and the cemetery can be reached only by a short road leading off of the Sulphur City-Carter's Store road north of the waterfall.

Attending school at this place in 1857 were Lydia and Lavina Lewis (later the wives of B.F.Johnson and B.F.Ramey). They were daughters of George Lewis, and walked over two miles to school. They came by Mount Zion but the school and church (later known as the Missionary Baptist Church) had not been built at that time. Seth T. Mills gave a part of the north end of the Mills farm for a church, school and cemetery and he helped to cut the logs to build the church a short time before his death in 1876.

-- wchs --

The Arkansas Genealogical Society and the Garland County Historical Society sponsored a short course for family historians at Hot Springs, Ark., conducted by professional genealogists from Logan, Utah. Hot Springs has many ardent genealogists, including such professionals as Mrs. Bobbie McLane, Miss Mary Hudgins, Mrs. Capitola Glazner and Mrs. Inez Cline, all of whom are members of our WCHS.

CLARK - WARD

Am renewing my subscription to FLASHBACK, in hopes that something in the Okla.-Ark. line area will show up on our Clarks and Wards. George Ward, his wife, 9 children and 10 slaves left Calhoun (Cherokee Agency), Georgia in April 1832, arriving at Sallisaw May 1832 -- 26 days traveling time! George Ward sold out to a trader in 1838 and left. He did not say where but Okla. archivist insists he and family stayed in Cherokee Nation. I'm not sure, because I found a George Ward buying land in Matagorda Co., Texas in 1838. He did various navigation tasks on the Colorado River and was called a Colonel. The LaGrange Intelligencer in 1842 told of him and three others drafted by the Texas government to clean out the raft so that boats could ply upstream to Austin, Tex.

In 1852 Samuel Ward, a merchant of LaGrange, has an administrator appointed to make an inventory of George Ward's property. Samuel Ward stated he had definite news that George Ward had gone to California in 1848 and was killed Oct. 7, 1851 by some Indians.

In Microfilm No. 234, Roll 116, U. of Okla. manuscript department George Ward contacts the War Department for subsistence for his deserted slaves in Cherokee Nation. Many letters travel back and forth, all in their entirety on the film. In 1846 he gains subsistence for these slaves. There were no further letters of George Ward's after 1846.

I'm still trying to find where Mary Ward, the 7th child of George Ward and wife Lucy Mayes (Lucy was a white woman and George Ward about 3/8 Cherokee), met Joseph Henry Clark, a white man, and married him about 1838 or 1842. If in Texas, I find several Clark girls in the area of Matagorda Co., Texas and a John C. Clark b.S.C. about 1807 who got a land grant from Mexican government about 1824. BUT, legend says that they met near Beattie's Prairie or Park Hill -- that Joseph Clark was at Fort Gibson. Where can I find a list of men who came from the east about 1837-38 or 40-41 to join with the Fort Gibson men (7th Infantry)?

Joseph Clark (family legend) was killed by bushwhackers close to the Arkansas line during the Civil War when he was hauling supplies to the Cherokee Nation, ca. 1863. I found this reference in the Oklahoma Archives, Case No. 74, Cherokee Records: "George W. Clark had letters of administration to the estate of Joseph Clark, dec'd. Bond $200. Witnesses: Wm. H. Turner, R. B. Ross. Tahlequah 1868. Granted to him on 3rd day of December, A. D. 1868."

On Microfilm at Okla State Library, Okla. City, reel on Fort Gibson, page 26, I found Joseph Clark, a private, on roll in 1824, and in May, 1824, Joseph Clark, retired, at the end of his long service. I did not find him in any more papers. A Daniel and Samuel Clark were also enlisted at Fort Gibson at the same time, but not mentioned on the same sheet with Joseph Clark.

So NOW, did Joseph Clark marry Mary Ward at Beattie's Prairie or in Texas or elsewhere. Where can I find a paper having Joseph and Mary Clark's names on it together?

Mrs. John D. Clark
3390 Delaware, Beaumont, Texas 77703

RECORDS OF THE EARLY COURTS

By Lloyd McConnell, Circuit Clerk

November 8, 1843: Arthur Young, indicted for murder, and a jury of 38 good and lawful men were ordered to report on Friday at 10 o'clock to try him. He was remanded to the custody of the sheriff. This case was continued from time to time and in May, 1845, was ordered stricken from the docket.

Thompson Skein and William Farmers were fined $10 each for not attending court as jurors. The fines were later remitted.

The sheriff, Presley Smith, was fined $5 for not preserving order in the courtroom.

In 1845 the fee in the circuit clerk's office for entering a judgment in the judgment docket was 25 cents. In 1965, that same fee is still on the fee books.

Bracken Lewis sued James Reed for slander, but lost his case before a jury composed of James Ward, John V. Gray, Henry Pettigrew, Jeremiah P. Parker, William A.L. Throckmorton, Thompson Skein, John Cartwright, James Lawrence, Wade H. Williams, John B. Webster, Daniel Barefoot and S. N. B. Wilson.

Involved in civil proceedings this year were Washington L. Wilson, Ralph Skelton, Isaac C. Conner, Joseph Miller, James Brandon, William Quinton, Allan Luper, William Skelton, Jacob Pycatt, John W. Truesdale.

Some prominent persons, including Matthew Leeper, John W. Hogan, Stephen K. Stone, R. H. Smithson, James H. Stirman were charged with disobeying the sheriff. Might have been tying their horses to his favorite tree.

On April 29, 1844, Judge Hoge presided at a special term to hear the cases. Deer-in-the-Water was indicted for burglary.

Joseph J. Wood, a subject of Great Britain, stated that he was born in 1815, and came to America in 1832. He renounced his allegiance to England.

At the May term 1844, Judge J.M.Hoge, who had occupied the bench for several years, failed to show up, and the clerk continued the term for two successive days. When the judge did not appear on the third day, he continued the term until the regular November term of court.

Jurors ordered to report in November, 1844, included Onesimus Evans, William Allen, John Clary, Charles Severs, James Little, Hugh W. Simpson, Thomas Tennant, Nathan D. Hanks, Obadiah Seay, Joseph Scott, John Rutherford Sr, Jacob Reed, Edwin P. Craig, James Boone, Garvan Trammel and Spencer F. Fine.

At the May term 1845, the Hon. Sebron G. Sneed presided and many of the cases on the docket for this term were continued because he had been a counsel for the parties before assuming the bench.

Grand Jurors summoned for this term included William Skelton, Hosea A. Cardwell, Ellis Hutchens, Jonathan Stout, James Wolwell, Littleberry Mason, Jack Oxford, Isaac P. Spencer, James Marrs, John Rieff, Larkin Noll, George Gibson, Charles J. Severs, James Thompson, T. C. Wilson and William Crawford.

E.O.Brion (O'Brien?) was the sheriff and appointed William B. Taylor and Guy McWilliams as his deputies.

William Cummins, a subject of Great Britain, pledged his allegiance to the United States.

William A. Throckmorton was charged in court with operating a grocery store (saloon?) without a license.

In May, 1845, charges of murder which had long been filed against John W. Hughes and William Meek were ordered stricken from the docket.

In May 1845, Prudence Key, a resident of Washington County, aged 77, filed an affidavit that entitled her to half pay or a pension as a widow; she stated that she married Daniel Putman, a veteran of the South Carolina militia, who died on July 19, 1816, and that she then married Landon Key, who died Aug. 24, 1821. She claimed a pension by virtue of her marriage to Putman.

A murder charge was filed against Thomas H. Bridgewood and the court record states, "Here cometh Thomas H. Bridgewood in the custody of the sheriff of Washington County in whose jail he had been heretofore committed, and who entered a plea of not guilty"...

The Bank of Arkansas had many suits against citizens of the county for debt. Included in the names is one Edward E. McConnell.

James Pinkman filed to become a citizen, having come over from England. John Krin, a subject of Frederick, King of Saxony, also petitioned to become a citizen.

The May, 1845, Grand Jury made this report to the court: "The Grand Jury upon an examination found that the jail in this county is in a bad condition which requires additional work thereon to render the custody of the prisoners safe. They deem it necessary in order to prevent persons from communicating with criminals unless in the presence of the keeper or the sheriff, that such work be done so as to prevent persons from the outside of said jail to aid the criminals confined therein from escaping, and also to disable them from furnishing means of escape, or of approaching near enough to advise with the criminals in the jail in plans for escape. The jurors recommend such improvements be made as may be necessary to put the jail in complete repair and render it secure. -- William S. Keeton, foreman."

June 1845, Sarah Morrison, in order to obtain half pay and a pension as a widow, stated that she was the widow of James Chapman, who served in the Revolutionary War as a Captain of Light Horse, 18 months under General LaFayette, guarding Burgoyne's men; that he entered the service from North Carolina. She married the said James Chapman on the 5th day of January 1784 in Granville County, North Carolina, by James Reed, a Baptist preacher; that her husband died in the month of February 1803; in the county of Caswell and State of North Carolina; that she afterward married James Morrison who died in the year 1820, in Independence County, Arkansas.

People who are mentioned in the court records during this time include Henry Ruckles, Reuben W. Runnsels, Milton Breedlove, Joseph Taylor, Nathan Rice, J. F. Marrs, Isaac P. Spencer, John Stelle, William M. Bowen, Matthew Hubbard, Charles McClellan,,George Cartha, Elijah P. Clary, Ephraim Cate, James O. Logan, Jesse L. Cravens, Moses Graham, James M. Tuttle and Thomas Pollard.

W A N T E D L I S T

of Washington County Historical Society

LYNCH - Mrs. Mary K. Johnson, 21714 Placeritos Blvd., Newhall, Calif. 91321: She wants information about her great-grandparents who owned a farm in Clear Creek Township, Washington Co., Arkansas. "ISAAC (IKE) LYNCH was the father; his wife was SARILDA MAYFIELD LYNCH. They had three children: John, James, Isabelle (Josephine or Belle), Hiram, Everette (Bud) and Lily May LYNCH. About 1880 they migrated to Madison Co., Arkansas, but I am really interested in any information about where they had come from, prior to their moving to your county."

BUTLER - Can you tell me where I could obtain a copy of an obituary of a person who died at Prairie Grove in 1890? I am trying to secure information on James Shelton Butler who died at Prairie Grove Sept. 19, 1890.

Annabel S. McKee
2250 Windsor Rd., Abilene, Texas 79605

SKELTON - Enclosed please find $6 for my 1966 dues and for a copy of the 1951-1963 Index to the FLASHBACK. It may interest you to know that I am a descendant of James Alexander Skelton born 9 Sept. 1826, Warren Co., Tenn.; died 9 March 1862 at Pea Ridge, Ark. The FLASHBACK is certainly an interesting and informational magazine and I enjoy reading it.

Florence E. Rhoten
7719 34th Avenue E, Tacoma, Wash. 98443

MILLER-REED - Enclosed check for $6 for my annual dues and copy of the 13-year Index to FLASHBACK. I am trying to locate the will of James Miller, who is supposed to have gone to Arkansas 1811 with the Peels from Kentucky, and to Washington County, Ark. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of William Reed. He was born 1774, and died 1854. His wife, daughter of William Reed, was his cousin. Their children were:

1. Ebenezer Reed Miller - date of birth unknown. He lived to be old but never married. I have a note that says he was 50 years old in 1860 (Washington Co. census) and was born in Ky. In his will he left a cow & calf to each of his nephews: Austin Lafferty, P. R. Bates, Jessie H. Pyeatt.
2. Mary Miller Pyeatt. Date of birth not known. Died 1859.
3. Joseph Miller - married Mary Obar.
4. Sarah Miller Lafferty. She married Binks Lafferty.
5. Nancy Scott Miller, b. Apr. 20, 1807; d. Feb. 4, 1864. She married Henderson Andrew Bates, Mar. 30, 1830. My paternal great grandfather
6. Eliza Miller - married Wm. Hart.
7. John Miller - married Alitha Williams.

Also, I wonder if you can find the will of John Thompson Molloy. His wife was Mary Ann. One of his daughters married David Molloy and they came with their family from Ala. to Washington Co., Ark. My Bates and Molloy and Miller families were in Washington Co., Ark. at Cane Hill.

Mrs. Kate H. (Bates) Parker
PO Box 371, San Augustine, Texas 75972

WALKER - I am searching for records on Martha Elizabeth Walker, b. in Ala. about 1836 -- Census 1870 and 1880 of family of Jefferson Blanks, husband, in Ashley Co., Ark. The Census shows her parents were born in Georgia. Know there were three brothers -- William A. Walker, Neal and Lafayette. William A. Walker was a cavalryman in the Civil War. Martha married Jefferson Blanks in Lauderdale Co., Miss. Jan. 1857. They moved to Arkansas.

Mrs. Clayton Johnson
301 S. Main, Dermott, Ark.

CRYER - Would like to contact someone who knows ancestry of Kesiah Cryer b. 1797, came to Tex. from Ark. in 1831. Her husbands were: 1. Wm. Hemphill, d. Ark.; 2. Henry (?) Jacobs, d. Ark.; 3. Geo. Taylor, d. Tex. Was she related to Morgan Cryer who was in Hempstead Co. in 1820 and in Washington Co., Ark. in 1840? Or John Cryer who came to Tex. from Ark. in 1820's? Will exchange information on these or other early citizens of Fayette Co. and Burnet Co., Tex. Many came from Ark.

Mrs. Gladys Alexander
1200 Sherrard, Burnet, Texas 78611

JOHNSTON-PATTERSON - Am looking for Ephraim Johnston. His daughter Margaret married my gr-grandfather John Stuart Patterson, b. Fay. Co., Penna. 1807, rem to Perry Co., Ohio, lived in Steubenville, Ohio until his 1880 death. Ephraim's daughter Ann md. an Eli Shryock 1820 in Coshocton Co., Ohio. Apparently, this family must have gone to Ark. My search has centered on the Pattersons and Williamsons but reference to an article on Ephraim Johnston has stimulated my interest in this line. My James Patterson, father of John Stuart md. Betsy Williamson, dau. of David (who md. 1st or 2nd Tamar McKnight, dau. of Rev. John McKnight, at Big Springs Presby. Ch., Newville, Cumb. Co., Penna. Apr. 1805) Hence the addition in this group of the Williamson family.

Mrs. Kingston J. Smallhouse
140 Camino Espanol, Tucson, Ariz. 85716

SPRINGSTON - Can you furnish full names of the first Springstons in your area? Anything on them would be appreciated. Are there Springston descendants still living around Elkins, Ark.?

Mrs. Frank E. Monnin
808 East Duke St., Hugo, Okla.

WALKER - I am kin to Vol and White Walker, Wood Walker, John Evans Walker, David L. Walker, Dr. Jim Walker, Henry B. Walker who used to be Sheriff of Washington County, and Jack Walker who was mayor of Fayetteville. I would like to know if there was a family tree printed by your Society some years ago, maybe in 1936, about the history of the Walker family and where they came from. If so, I would like a copy and any other information on the Walker family.

Frank A. Walker EM2, Seamens Unit
c/o US Post Office, Galveston, Texas

Very much enjoyed my "borrowed" copy of the WCHS Flashback. Will you please tell me if there is a similar one published at Fort Smith or Van Buren? Am very interested in that area.

Mrs. Hazel Knight Adams
2805 E. 39 Ct. N., Tulsa, Okla. 74110

BROWN - I should be most grateful if you can give me this needed information or can tell me where I can obtain it. My inquiry pertains to "Chief Brown," perhaps "Chief John Brown" of "The West District" or "Cherokee Land North of the Arkansas River." This may have been in Crawford or Carroll County, Ark. Also, do you have anything in your records pertaining to Rev. George Sugg and his wife, Elizabeth Jane (Brown) Sugg, originally from Virginia and on to Northwest Arkansas?

Mrs. Vera Wallace Williams
504 No. 16th St., Fort Smith, Ark.

SILL - Thank you for your response to my inquiry about the SILL family of Springdale. After writing you, I had a response from the Springdale postmaster and this may give you a clue to the Sill family. Mrs. Mildred Wiley, 813 Meadow Ave., Springdale, Ark., is the granddaughter of the Eli Sill I was looking for. Her father was Charles Sill who died in 1962, the last of the Eli Sill children; she further says that she and her two daughters are the only Eli Sill descendants who still live in that area.

(Editor's note: Our WCHS genealogical file contains no information about a Sill family in the Springdale area. Our correspondent sends us the names and dates for children and gr-children of Register Sill, b. in Penna. 1771, served as Volunteer in Alleghany Co., Penna. 1804, moved to Shelby Co., Ky. Married Ann ca 1805, moved to Owen Co., Ind. He died in the 1850s in Washington Co., Ind., where they had lived since ca 1831-32. Eli Evans Sill, born Owen Co., Ind. 1830, married Susan Smith Feb. 14, 1860. They moved to Ark. about 1875 and are said to have lived around Springdale, Washington County, Ark. and said to have died about 1912.)

Jean M. Maire
PO Box 306, Port Jefferson Sta., N. Y. 11776

HAYES - Does anyone know of a Charlie Hayes (Charles Wesley Hayes) who died at Dutch Mills in 1910? He also lived at Sugar Hill and Summers, Arkansas. He had several children: Eliza Jane, Rhoda, John, Tom, Joe Lily Bell, George, Lige and Mary Ellen. After his first wife (Sarah Walker Hayes) died he remarried. Can anyone tell me the name of his second wife? Someone thought B. E. Devine, someone else thought her name Adkinson. His children went to school at Possum Hollow School. Is there anyone still living who went to this school and can tell me about it?

Mrs. T. E. Gray
Elmwood, Oklahoma 73935

- wchs -

A ZEKE PROCTOR NOTE

Jack Reed of our Society has shown us a recent issue of the "West" magazine that carries an article about Zeke Proctor. Washington County played a prominent part in Proctor's career, especially Cincinnati, which was one of the Cherokee's favorite hangouts. The article also names Wythe Walker of Fayetteville as Zeke's attorney when the Cherokee badman was indicted for shooting up the Going Snake courthouse in the Cherokee Nation. We have no intention of getting involved in this old-time Cherokee feud, but we do know that responsible Washington County citizens rallied to Zeke Proctor's defense.

HABBERTON SCHOOL (picture on next page);

Front row: Oma Stobaugh, Gertie Mayes, Eula Slaughter, Albert Brooks, Estell (?), Ebb Enyart, Dallas Stone, Orvall Stone, Owen (Odie) David Bryan, Claud Slaughter, Ebb Stone, Linzy Johnston.

2nd row: Robert Mayes, Arthur Stone, Beulah Johnston, Willie Mitchell Bryan, Walter Nelson, Edgar Slaughter, Al Stone, Alfred Bryan, Bill Stone.

3rd row: Mary Enyart, (next two unidentified), Stella Nelson, Mamie Neil.

4th row: Gertie Wheelock, Gertie Brooks, Estelle (?), Ollie Johnson.

Teacher -- Professor Gollaher.

Photo from Mrs. F. M. Lindley, Springdale, via Mrs. Fussell.

-- wchs --

A WASHBURN NOTE

Dear Mr. Lemke:

On page 49 of your October 1965 Flashback, I notice that you have listed me as "kin" to Cephas Washburn. I am a direct descendant of Cephas Washburn, through his daughter Abby M. Washbourne Langford,. Although I do not carry the Washbourne name, I believe the blood relation is the same as that of General Lee Washbourne, a great-grandson of Cephas Washburn.

My brother, George K. Dodd, my sister Miss Corinne Dodd, and I are the only living great-grandchildren of Cephas Washburn here in Arkansas. George K. Dodd has a daughter -- Mary Dodd Baker (Mrs. Guy) who in turn has two young daughters, Cathy and Barbara Baker, who are direct descendants and all living here in Russellville, Ark.

As you probably know, it was the Dodd Family which placed the portraits and memorabilia in the archives at the Old State House in Little Rock. You might say that the Dodds are a bit proud of their heritage and we think it wise to keep the records as straight as possible for the generations to come.

Mrs. Betty Dodd Connell (Mrs. Ed) is a gr-gr-granddaughter of Cephas Washburn, and she lives in Fayetteville, not Russellville, Ark.

Harry W. Dodd,
PO Box 387, Russellville, Ark.

FROM A WCHS MEMBER

Mrs. Geo. Huber, my neighbor, tells me that her cousin living near Fayetteville is Mrs. Ruby Cunningham. Her father was Ed Bryan. He is a son of J. E. Bryan, editor of the "Alliance Liberator", a paper published in Fayetteville by J. E. Bryan in 1891.

Mrs. E. A. Teter, Chetopa, Kansas

Elm Grove School, south on 71, about 1916. (Photo from Ernest Farmer)

Habberton School. See identifications on facing page (Photo from Mrs. Tressa Fussell)

HISTORY OF ST.PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The WCHS has obtained access to the early records of the Episcopal Church in Fayetteville. We will publish these serially in FLASHBACK. The record was begun in 1848 by W. C. Stout, Deacon. Stout included an introduction in which he had this paragraph:

"The Gospel was first preached in the town of Fayetteville by a clergyman of this Church in the year 1840. This clergyman was the Rev. William Scull, at that time U.S. Chaplain at Fort Gibson and afterwards missionary of the Domestic Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church."

Rev. Stout also compiled a list of the communicants he found when he arrived here in 1848 and added the names of those who joined thechurch in 1849 and 1850. It is an impressive list for the early days with such names as Oldham, Chew, Deane, Washington, McKisick, Dickson, Pope, Leeper, McClain, Mecklin, Spangler, and William and Eliza McIlroy.

St.Paul's Parish was organized May 23, 1848. The minutes of the organizational meeting are signed by C(has.W.) Deane, J.W. Chew and Jno. Campbell (of Cane Hill) "and fourteen others" (names not given).

There is a page in the old record book that is headed "Communicants Lost". Most of these were lost by removal, including the McKisicks and the Oldhams who moved to Texas. However, on April 1, 1850 five members of the Parish "emigrated to California hoping to return again." These men who went on the Gold Rush were C.W.Deane, Robert Chew, Whiting Washington, Chas.Henry Washington and Matthew Leeper.

Another early communicant of St. Paul's was Miss Dophia Sawyer, who founded the Fayetteville Female Seminary. She later left the Episcopal Church to join the Presbyterians.

Also, on April 1, 1850, was dropped from the list for non-attendance at communion, Asmus Outzen, but a later entry says "Killed by Indians, 1862."

The most surprising thing in the old records is a history of St. Paul's Parish, written by the Rev. James J. Vaulx, who was Rector of the church from Oct. 18, 1876 to Oct. 27, 1902. On his retirement, the Reverend Vaulx moved to Mountain Grove, Mo., where he wrote the history of the church on July 28, 1904. We plan to publish the account of his ministry in full, because some of the old-timers remember the Rev. Vaulx and many University alumni remember his daughter, Miss Julia, who was University librarian for many years.

The following are a few of the early marriages recorded in the records:
Robert B. Rutherford of Fort Smith to Sallie W. Butler, Aug. 24, 1854
James H. Van Hoose to Melinda Ann McIlroy, Aug. 9, 1855
Col. William Black to Orpha Mercer, Nov. 18, 1855
James H. Van Hoose to Martha Skelton, June 24, 1869
Elias B. Moore to Emma North, Feb. 16, 1870
Capt. Lawson D. Jernigan to Doris Botefuhr, June 27, 1870
Thomas D. Boles and Clementine Watson, June 19, 1877, "witnessed by Col. & Mrs. Gunter, Col.& Mrs.Cravens, Mr.& Mrs. Hauptman and a large congregation." This was the first marriage in the present church.

CAMPUS MEMORIES

Many (most) of my campus memories revolve around the University's journalism department. But for 12 years I headed the News Bureau and was in touch with most of the other campus departments, especially athletics. But when A. W. "Johnnie" Porter took over as director of athletic publicity in 1940, I gave him most of my files. What I had left I gave to Bob Cheyne when Bob took over about 1950. Bob has made good use of my early statistics, pictures, etc., although he thinks in space-age terms -- championships, all-Americans, color brochures, and all that sort of thing. There was no space-age from 1928-1940. Also, there was very little money. We just plugged along.

So, for this installment of "Campus Memories," I'll go back to the pretty girls. I started a file on the Homecoming Queens and one on the girls who were named "Miss Arkansas Traveler" -- the highest tribute to the feminine journalists. Herewith, we are publishing pix of ten early "Miss Travelers" and I have fond memories of all of them.

Our first "Miss Traveler" in the spring of 1929 was Mary Schilling, who is now Mrs. E. T. Owen of Little Rock. Mary was a top Kappa and on this particular evening she had invited me to a party at the Kappa house on Church Street. Western Union chose that evening to wire me that Garland "Bevo" Beavers had been named the first recipient of the Houston Post "Most Valuable Player" award. I had to choose between Mary and "Bevo". I chose the fullback and left for Old Main to pound out some publicity on Beavers. When I last saw "Miss Traveler", she was being well taken care of, on the front porch, by a 6-3 basketball player.

Another "Miss Traveler" that I remember fondly was Martha Mayer. At the banquet at which she received the award, she sat next to me. She had her speech in her lap and I managed to sneak it away. Poor Martha almost went to pieces when she discovered her loss.

I could tell similar stories about the other "Miss Travelers" on the facing page. F'rinstance, when Bettie Barnes was nominated for Traveler business manager, her sorority (Pi Phi) told her no deal. So she came to my office and said she couldn't run for the job. I told her, "Bettie, if you pull out of the race, don't ever come down here (Basement of Old Main) to see me again." She stayed in the race, won easily, and was one of the best business managers the Traveler ever had. Bettie is now Mrs. George V. Messner and lives in Atlanta (Ga.). Her mother is Mrs. Emma Barnes, who was Carnall Hall matron some 30 years ago.

Mary Schilling 1930
Little Rock

Daphne Dailey 1931
Fayetteville

Burnelle Boyce 1932
Little Rock

Martha Mayer 1933
Fort Smith

Helen McCreight 1934
Little Rock

Bettie Barnes 1938
Fayetteville

Wilda Whitescarver 1939
Webb City, Mo.

Wanda Wassner 1949
Bald Knob

Muriel Stuck 1951

Carol Schoen 1948

HISTORY NEWS NOTES

A recent caller at our WCHS office was Andy Lucas, who edits the University's alumni magazine. He is gathering material for the Centennial History of the University to be published in 1971. That's just five years away.

- wchs -

The Arkansas Family Historian, published by the Arkansas Genealogical Society at Box 587, Conway, Ark., has changed its cover and format. The current issue, edited by Mrs. Guy Murphy, contains much valuable Arkansas genealogical material.

- wchs -

Thanks to Mrs. J.C. Parks, chairman of the Prairie Grove Battlefield Commission, for sending our society a supply of the attractive folder published by this state commission. The color folder contains nine excellent pictures of the pioneer and battle structures that have been erected in the Park.

- wchs -

Several of our members are on the staff of the Ozarks Mountaineer, published at Branson, Mo. They are Deane G. Carter, who writes on prehistory (archaeology), Tom Feathers, W. J. Good and W. J. Lemke The Mountaineer is a regional magazine and emphasizes both pioneer history and current developments in the area.

- wchs -

The man who runs the duplicating machine in the WCHS office is our secretary, Deane G. Carter. He has just finished running off the Washinton County marriage records from 1845 to 1869. He fancied this one up by having it bound with plastic, so that it will lie open when used. I looked through a copy and saw many familiar pioneer names. But I do not care if the marriages are "bound in plastic" or in an old-fashioned bundling bed. There are only 100 copies of the Washington County marriage records available, and the price is $3 per copy. Write to the Secretary, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark. This is bound to be a collector's item, because all brides and grooms are alphabetized and it's easy to locate the pioneer marriages.

- wchs -

You never can tell who will climb the 20 steep & narrow steps up to our history office. The halt,the blind and the lame have come up there. Mostly they are in search of early family history and we help them all we can. In this endeavor we miss the late Roy A. Scott, who knew these folks as personal friends (and prospective voters), but we do the best we can. In one day recently our visitors (with or without coffee) included Ruth Morris, who promised to record some of her pioneer history (including McGarrah), and Carman Fish, a retiree from Chicago who is now living just off the Old Wire Road, and Earl Williams, who was seeking information for a Bar Association tribute to O.E.Williams. There were others, including persons sent to us by the UofA history department, Chamber of Commerce, and courthouse offices, to none of which we owe any allegiance. Membership check for $3 will correct things. As most of you know, local history is a labor of love.

- wchs -

PEA RIDGE AND MONTE NE

Every student who took my course in Feature Writing was assured of a good stiff dose of Arkansas history. I took this class on field trips to Cane Hill, Prairie Grove, Pea Ridge and Monte Ne, where they gathered material for their class articles.

The pictures on the facing page were taken by a member of one of my Feature Writing classes -- Don Millsap, who got his degree in 1958. The picture, upper left, shows Teacher pointing out a feature of the battle on a map that hung in Mrs. Scott's Elkhorn Tavern museum. The other two Pea Ridge pictures show the class surrounding the Blue-Gray statue that used to stand just south of Elkhorn Tavern. The statue has been moved and the Tavern is now (1966) being restored from original foundation to the roof. Tourists of the future will see a restoration of Elkhorn Tavern but the monument, wherever it stands, will be the original. When I first saw the statue (1929) I said to myself, "I did not know that Jacob Epstein served in the Civil War." That's how "contemporary" the statue really was. And is.

The National Park Service, Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D. C., has published a fine folder about the development of Pea Ridge as a National Military Park. It is a 10-page folder and contains four fine maps. Write to Pea Ridge or to Washington for a copy. I should tell you this: the national government has built a 7-mile circular one-way drive over the battlefield, with excellent lookout places at intervals. But don't expect to see Elkhorn Tavern as you knew it, progress being what it is.

The other pictures on the facing page (center and right, up and down) were made at Monte Ne on this Feature Writing trip. The reason we are publishing them at this time is that Coin Harvey, who built the Monte Ne "pyramid" guessed wrong. The amphitheater shown on the pictures is now under the waters of the Beaver Reservoir. When I was up there a few weeks ago, I was told that fishermen sit on the upper tier of Mr. Harvey's pyramid and catch fish from what had once been Coin's picturesque lagoon.

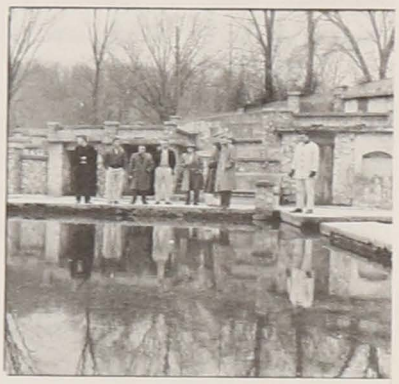
Coin Harvey thought his pyramid would last forever, with a metal plaque attached to the top so that future historians, after the demise of our own 20th century civilization, could find the spot and the records. Coin died in 1936 and was buried in a concrete tomb near the pyramid. The tomb has been moved up the hillside and is now safe from the waters of Beaver Reservoir.

Many old-time UofA students saw Coin Harvey's pyramid and the resort he started - railway from Rogers (Lowell) to Monte Ne, disembarking at the log station and getting aboard the gondolas where singing gondoliers rowed them to the big hotel. The hotel is in the process of being torn down and soon the last vestige of Harvey's big dream will be gone under the waters of Beaver Lake.

The Rogers Chamber of Commerce has a 3-page mimeo account of Monte Ne. There is only one error. It says, "Harvey re-entered politics in 1933, ran for president on the Liberty Party. He received votes from every state in the Union." Some of you were present with me, at the pyramid, when Coin Harvey made his acceptance speech to run against F. D. Roosevelt. The candidate for vice-president on Harvey's ticket was a Congressman named Lemke from North Dakota -- no relation.

W. J. Lemke, editor

UNIVERSITY FIELD TRIP



Feature writers visit Pea Ridge (left row of pictures) and Monte Ne. Photos by Don Miſlsap '58. See accompanying article.

HISTORY NEWS NOTES

A Rare Civil War Item

A recent WCHS visitor was E. A. Yeater, who recently retired and now lives near Brentwood. He showed us a printed booklet about the Civil War activities in this area that we had not seen before. He has agreed to let us make a copy of this account and publish it. He also invited us to his home south of Brentwood where he has a collection of Civil War guns and other relics. We plan to visit him at our first opportunity. Incidentally, he is a nephew of the late Miss Laura Yeater, whom many of our readers remember. The Yeaters came from Missouri.

"The Invasion of Northwest Arkansas"

Our Society has published No. 49 in its Booklet Series. This is an unusual Civil War item. It contains the letters written by a Federal officer, Major William G. Thompson of the 20th Iowa regiment, from the date of his enlistment to the battle of Prairie Grove. The letters were edited by Edwin C. Bearss, research historian with the National Park Service at Vicksburg, Miss. Mr.Bearss has prepared excellent maps, showing the route of the armies through southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas. These maps are reproduced in our booklet. Because our Booklet Series is published in a limited edition, we advise immediate orders. The price is $1. Orders should be addressed to the secretary, Deane G. Carter, WCHS, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

A Box of Old Papers and Clippings

One of our readers has brought us a box of old clippings. A casual examination reveals some things that are historically important. For example, there is a copy of the Fayetteville Arkansas Sentinel of Sept. 20, 1887, which contains the memorial address delivered by Ex-Gov.F.R. Lubbock of Texas at the Confederate Reunion at Pea Ridge Sept.2, 1887. There is also the speech of S. W. Peel at the Pea Ridge Reunion. This was, or course, the 25th anniversary of the battle, and these patriotic addresses deserve to be preserved.

Another clipping is from the June 2, 1882 issue of the Rogers Champion, which contains the two "Orations" delivered at Fayetteville- the speech of Col.E.C.Boudinot at the decoration of Confederate graves on May 18, 1882, and the speech of D.W.Hinman delivered at the decoration of the graves of Union soldiers at the National Cemetery in Fayetteville on May 30, 1882. Boudinot's speech was typical of the noted Cherokee and we may reprint it, to show his style. He quoted much poetry. As is known, he was once a Fayetteville newspaper editor.

Another interesting item is a copy of The Tahlequah Arrow of Aug.29, 1903, in which is reported Tahlequah's acquisition of Electric Lights, Waterworks, and Free Schools. An unusual thing is that the paper carried the advertisements of three schools in the Indian Territory - the Cherokee Baptist Academy at Tahlequah, Nazareth College at Muskogee, and Willie Halsell College of Vinita. The Cherokee people were always believers in education and in the early days sent many of their boys and girls to the Fayetteville Female Seminary, Cane Hill College, and Ozark Institute at Mr.Comfort, all in Washington County, Ark.

- wchs -

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LETTERS FROM READERS

Like you, I have high respect for the Cherokees. I think they are a great people. I wrote a tribute to Sophia Sawyer in which I gave her credit for being a chief factor in building the interest and the atmosphere which later brought the University to Fayetteville. I note that you recognize the Ridge family for their part in bringing forth Miss Sawyer and her Female Seminary, and in this you are very right.

Harold Hatzfeld
114 W. Anderson, Aurora, Mo. 65605

An announcement from Mrs. Gerald B. McLane tells us that she and Mrs. Capitola Glazner have just published "An Index to the 1830 Census of Missouri" ($12.50). Also available (at $7.50 each) are the following: "Sevier Co., Ark. 1850 Census", "Hot Spring Co., Ark. 1850 Census", and "Index 1830 Census of Territory of Ark." Order from

Mrs. Gerald B. McLane
112 Leach St., Hot Springs, Ark. 71901

Comes an announcement headed "Are You a Descendant of South Carolina Families?" and offering membership in the Pauline Young Genealogical Library, 105 Byrnes St., PO Box 433, Liberty, S. C. Fee is $5.

If at any time in your FLASHBACK you have article pertaining to the Battle of Prairie Grove that would mention the Butlers, I wish you would let me know. Thank you kindly for information already sent.

Mrs. P. M. McKee,
2250 Windsor Rd., Abilene, Texas 79605

It was a privilege to receive the last two issues of "Flashback" and to receive a membership in the WCHS. Later I learned that both came through the courtesy of my brother Weldon and my sister-in-law, Marie Graham. Then, upon reading one of the issues, I learned something about my family I never knew before -- that my sister-in-law's family was full of ministers as shown by the published pictures in the write-up concerning the Shiloh Baptist Church.

In one issue I noted stories concerning the early schools, such as Hickory Flat and Shady Grove. I wonder if anyone is available to pre-prepare a story on the Meadow Valley School which was located north of Fayetteville between the Dean and Rudolph farms. It was the first school I ever attended.

It is fortunate that those of us dispersed across the country have you to record our past.

Frederick Lee Liebolt, M.D.
The New York Hospital
525 East 68th St., New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Mr. Carter:

I was thrilled beyond words to receive the pages from the issues of FLASHBACK which you so thoughtfully sent me. I was so glad to see the picture of Dr. Carter and sons, and I wondered where in the world it was found. I had never seen it. Life certainly must have been serious in those days, by the earnest expressions on their faces!

Mrs. C. B. Marquis
622 South 21 St., Fort Smith, Arkansas

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